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SOCCER

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WEEKLY

APIA president flies to Italy

MERCY DASH!

BY TOM ANDERSON



APIA president Ron Orsatti

APIA president Ron Orsatti will fly to Italy this week in an attempt to secure finance to relieve pressure at present being forced on his club.

The Apia boss will meet with the heads of a leading Italian bank in a bid to finalise negotiations for a financial deal that has been in motion for a number of months.

Orsatti is confident the negotiations will be finalised and that the deal will be closed.

"We have been conducting negotiations with a leading Italian bank for the past few months," he said at the weekend.

"I have been requested to fly to Rome this week, to meet the directors of the bank and I will comply with the request.

"I am confident we will come to some arrangement and that the deal will be concluded.

"When this happens a great deal of pressure will be relieved from the Apia club."

Orsatti and his Apia club directors are at present working overtime to get this famous institution back on an even keel.

Their efforts have to be admired.

Meanwhile club coach Manfred Schaefer is busy re-organising his ranks for the coming NSL campaign.

Schaefer is confident he will have a lineup that will be more than competitive during the new season.

High on his priority list is his attempt to sign Sydney Croatia goalkeeper Tony Franken.

Negotiations are already well in progress in this area and Franken is keen to join the Leichhardt club.

Franken is one of the finest goalkeepers in Australia and his presence at Apia would be a big boost for the club.

On the other side of the coin, two of last season's campaigners — Gerry Gomez and youth international Brad Maloney look set for a change of clubs.

Gomez is at present training with Melita Eagles and Maloney has been on the end of an offer from Newcastle Breakers.

"It is not my policy to retain disgruntled players in my setup and all the players are fully aware of this," coach Schaefer said.

The late and great Fil Bottalico Page 17

ON October 4, the NSL will journey forth into its 16th year of existence.

The past 15 years have been dramatic for soccer's elite competition.

Years filled with crises, controversy, triumph and tragedy.

Yet, through it all, the NSL has succeeded in maintaining its status in Australian sport.

Its being has greatly helped the advancement of soccer in this country, which was of course, one of the original objects when the competition was started in 1977.

The NSL has given countless thousands enjoyment, either as players or spectators and has more than adequately filled its role.

Now comes a new season with a revamped format.

And, the question being asked is — will it be a period of significant change?

Will there be more revolutionary ideas or will activities plod along in usual stereotyped fashion?

No doubt, some clubs will flounder in the years ahead and will be replaced by others.

Personalities will make their own con-

tribution in the playing arena and in the field of administration, just as their predecessors did over the past 15 years.

Other questions being asked are — can the burden of inflated transfer fees, spiralling costs and fluctuating attendances be eased?

Also, will the over-dependence on sponsorship prove fatal in the long run?

Questions which no doubt will be answered in the exciting months ahead.

We wish the NSL well in its coming new venture, and hope that the desired success will eventuate.

THE EDITOR.

Kossie could be on the dole!

BY GRAHAM COOKE

JOHN Kosmina is just getting used to the fact he may be out of work this summer.

The sometimes controversial anchor man for ABC Television's Australian soccer coverage last season is the most visible victim of the decision by the ABC to pull out of its contract to cover Quit National League and international matches.

And he admits he is one casualty the ASF will probably lose little sleep over. "I have not gained a reputation for being a diplomat," he said.

In Canberra recently at a Level Three coaching course, the former Soccerroo captain and scorer of more goals at senior international level than any other Australian, said "a few people within the hierarchy" had tried to get him removed "probably because they were worried about what I might have to say on air".

Even now he refuses to join the ASF's outright condemnation of the national broadcaster, saying the federation must bear some of the blame for dragging out negotiations over a new contract last year.

"I had a verbal agree-

ment to continue with the ABC, but that was dependent on all these problems being sorted out," he said. "If I don't cover the soccer this summer, I'll be looking for work elsewhere."

Kosmina said he had always wanted to coach "and I would have done this course whatever was happening at the ABC. I want to broaden my knowledge of the game — it simply isn't enough just having been a player."

"There are far too many coaches in the national league who have been around for too long — it's become a merry-go-round — the result is there are some individuals who are better at negotiating with club secretaries and presidents than they are at producing the goods on the park. I'd like to see that change."

"Obviously, I wouldn't expect to start at NSL. In fact, there is a good future in working with juniors. The Australian Coaching Council is stressing the importance of having quality people at this level and soccer does not have nearly enough to cover the vast number of kids who play our game."

"NSW has made a start with Robbie Wheatley but even he can't hope to get to all the kids in the country areas — there aren't enough hours in the day."

"It's really important for players to take these courses — even before they give up playing. It's a great shame there are so few here for this one. I guess they figure they know it all already."

COACH QUILTS

BELCONNEN United soccer coach Steve Forshaw has announced his resignation, less than a year after leading the club to a clean sweep of all three major ACT trophies.



JOHN KOSMINA IN HIS PLAYING DAYS WITH APIA

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

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It's settling in time for Paul and Lorenz at their new home

BY LOU GAUTIER

YOUNG Soccerroo skipper Paul Okon has settled well in Belgium with FC Brugge.

But together with fellow-Australian Lorenz Kindtner, he will have to play in the Brugge second team for a while before gets a chance to strut his stuff in the firsts.

This is a situation Okon (and Kindtner) understand as the club had warned them this would happen when they were purchased for a total fee of \$600,000 two months ago.

At the moment Paul and Lorenz are staying at a hotel, but this week they move into an apartment next to where Frank Farina lived when he was in Brugge.

The young Aussies

actually dined with Farina, who returned to his old club to tie up some loose ends last month, and the new Bari \$5 million man had plenty of advice for his compatriots.

New coach Hugo Broos, who replaced Georges Leekens at Brugge this season, wants his two Aussies to train with the second team until their fitness improves, then they'll link up with the first team.

In his first match in Brugge's reserves, Okon set off for a solo run and scored with a shot just outside the box — à la Roberto Baggio at Italia '90 against Czechoslovakia in Rome.

A great start in Belgian soccer to be sure!

Without undue immodesty, Okon genuinely believes that it's only a matter of weeks before he gets called up

for the Brugge first team.

The side is off to a good start in the Belgian First Division, but the two Aussies think that the standard is not all that better than in the Australian National League.

Training twice a day has proved a boon for Okon and Kindtner.

"It makes such a difference (training twice a day)," Okon says.

"You feel sharp and think you can do anything on the field. That's how I am beginning to feel."

Okon is convinced fellow Soccerroos Paul Trimboli, Brank Milosevic and Ned Zelic would all do well in top flight Belgian soccer, a competition he hopes to break into in the next few weeks.

Knowing his talent and determination, a first team berth cannot be far off.



PAUL OKON

Another Olympic row!

HOT on the heels of the aborted European tour, the Australian Soccer Federation has become embroiled in an Olympic row with New Zealand, Fiji and Papua New Guinea over the venues for Olympic Games Oceania Group qualifiers in October and November.

Fiji, NZ and PNG want to cut costs by playing their home and away qualifiers as a round-robin tournament in Fiji in November but are against Australia also taking part.

The three countries played their away legs against Australia in Melbourne in May and believe Australia should

not play its three return matches in Fiji but travel to each country individually to avoid any advantage to Australia.

ASF coaching director Mike Wells said a special international phone conference involving the four respective national soccer bodies and Oceania FIFA delegate Charlie Dempsey last week had failed to resolve the dispute but another was planned for this week.

"It's a real impasse but we believe that because of a precedent set in Europe FIFA would decide in our favour if necessary," Wells said.

"We understand why they want to play all their matches in Fiji but

believe if they have the opportunity to to it then Australia should also take part.

Wells dismissed a report in Suva's "Fiji Times" newspaper which claimed Australia wanted to play both matches against Fiji in Australia.

"The opposite is in fact true because we want to play our remaining three games in Fiji," Wells said.

"It's true we questioned the quality of facilities at Ba where we are scheduled to play but have been assured the playing surface and security will be up to standard."

Australia is favoured to win the Oceania group after beating NZ 2-0, Fiji 7-0 and PNG 4-0 in its home matches.

The Oceania winner must then play the sixth-ranked European team early next year for a place in the Barcelona Olympic Games.

BLACKTOWN CITY SOCCER CLUB

BCSC/GRANVILLE DIVISION I YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

Mondays U13	21 Oct-28 Oct	4 Nov.
Tuesdays U14	22 Oct-29 Oct	5 Nov.
Wednesdays U15	23 Oct-30 Oct	6 Nov.
Thursdays U17	24 Oct-31 Oct	7 Nov.

held at

Ashley Brown Reserve

(behind Gabbie Stadium)

Time 6pm-8pm

Coaches and Managers written applications to:

**The President,
Youth League,
BCSC Ltd**

PO Box SEVEN HILLS 2147.

by 14.9.91.

Enquiries B. Milligan 624-5809,
B. Crews 871-2411.



BY LOU GAUTIER

THE costs of preparing and sending the Young Soccerroos and the Joeys to their respective youth world championships have been astronomical.

The Australian Soccer Federation will be some quarter of a mil-

lion dollars over budget.

And this, mind you, despite some sort of financial assistance from the Australian government.

The money, however, was well spent, if excessive.

No amount of money could have paid for the tremendous goodwill created by our youth teams in world compe-

tion this year.

The Young Soccerroos, in particular, were worth every penny spent — and then some.

The publicity they brought to Australia, not only on Australian football but on the country as a whole in a part of the world where Australia is largely unknown and ignored, has no price.

Let's hope the ASF realises this when future world championship plans are made.

And let them also devote more energy into securing sponsors for our national teams — at all levels.

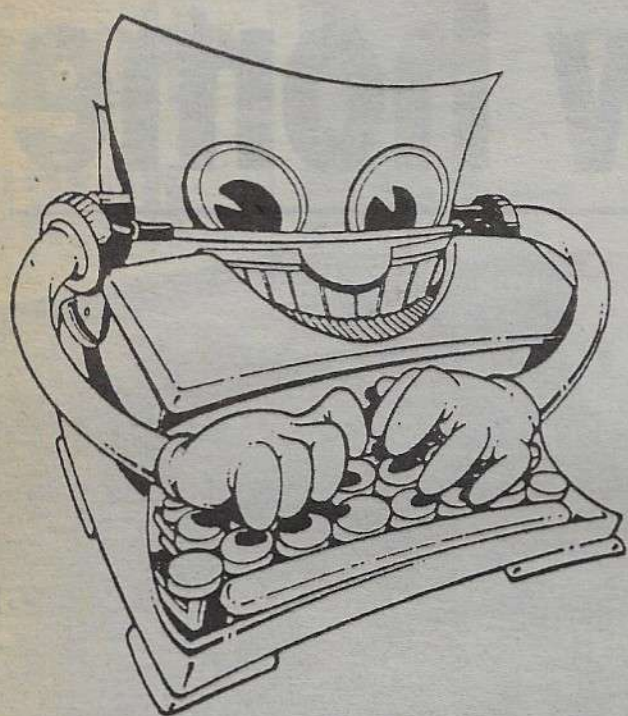
If that had been done, perhaps the great Olympic debacle that aborted the proposed European tour could have been avoided.

Even in these tough economic times, I am sure a sponsor could have been found to help defray the costs of sending the Olyroos overseas.

Just as sponsors in future must be secured for our Under 17 and 20 national sides.

Another \$250,000 "loss" would be unthinkable.

Youth preparation is a very costly item



NSL REFEREES



RICHARD LORENC

THE Australian Referees' Federation has increased its panel for the NSL by three referees.

When the 1991/92 season kicks off in the first weekend in October, there will be 21 instead of 18 referees on call for NSL duty.

Melbourne and Sydney will each have six referees.

The full list of whistlers for the upcoming season is: Ziggy Mnich (Victoria), Nestor Zachariadis (Victoria), Eugene Brazzale (Victoria), John Fraser (Victoria), Dennis Voutsinis (Victoria), Gary Power (NSW), John McConnell (NSW), Richard Lorenc (NSW), Peter Spiers (NSW), Alex Spiroski (NSW), Manny Loupis (NSW), Rob Davies (NNSW), Gordon Dunster (NNSW), Bill Monteverde (Queensland), P. Hulme (Queensland), Tom McRoe (South Australia), Mark Browning (South Australia), John Papanicolas (South Australia), Dennis Mortimer (Western Australia).

Big Gary on road to recovery

BY CON STAVROS

ALL soccer supporters will be heartened by the news that new Heidelberg coach Gary Cole is well on the way to full recovery after his recent car accident.

Cole, who made a name for himself in the National League with the Bergers, returns to Olympic Village this season to take the coaching reins from Len McKendry.

Travelling from Canberra to Melbourne to begin his appointment, Cole was involved in a head-on collision that left him with a broken leg, jaw and nose as well as severe lacerations.

Only just off crutches, Cole intends to resume control of his charges at training this week and will have his work cut out for him evaluating his new signings.

Aside from Sasha Becvinovski and Doug Hodgson, Heidelberg is said to be very interested in Alex Gymnopoulos of Northcote and Brian MacNicol of Juventus.

On the debit side, Heidelberg have lost Stuart Stevenson to new NSL team Brisbane United, whilst Stuart Cannell and Willie Herd have been transfer-listed.

Garry McDowall, the mainstay of defence in recent years, has hung up the boots to become coach of the Youth team.

McDowall, who has earned a reputation as one of the hard men of the Australian game, has been forced to finally accept doctor's orders and retire after his fifth operation on a troublesome left knee.

SAINTS

THE Directors of St George BSC Pty Limited and St George Budapest have announced that an application will be made shortly to the NSW Soccer Federation Limited for teams to play in the State League First Division and Under 19 State League Competition during the 1992 Winter Season.

Reid working overtime



Aussie women enjoying their game.

The new team boss of Australian women's soccer, John Reid, is used to battling against the odds. When I rang the office from which he works as the Queensland regional director of coaching for Rockhampton, there was no reply. Which is hardly surprising because, as I learnt later, it was destroyed in recent flooding. Even so, the Big Wet has a long way to go before it can put the dampers on John Reid. Speaking from home, he was full of enthusiasm for his new part-time job, which he holds in succession to Steve Darby.

Originally from England, he has developed a love for the South American style of soccer. "I believe I have acquired a reputation as a coach who develops skills — after all, Queensland has a South American climate, so why not football to match?" he said.

"I want players who express themselves through their skills — I want them to perform up to the limits of their ability — the soccer pitch is a certain size and I believe in playing all over it."

Females are particularly suited to this philosophy.

"They really seem to have more natural coordination and balance, a grace coupled with ability — something which often has to be manufactured in males."

What then, does he feel he will have to 'manufacture' in elite soccer-playing females?

"A hunger for success, a serious, single-minded attitude. There has to be both silk and steel because in any team you also need runners and ball-winners. That is the secret of coaching at this level, the need to blend 10 or 12 different talents into one unit."

He makes no secret of the fact that it is ambition which drives him to take on this extra challenge. "I can do great work developing soccer in the Rock-

hampton area, but outside Queensland I am virtually unknown," he said.

"I want to be a national coach and this was the position which presented itself."

Reid had what he describes as an unsuccessful playing career in England, representing Charlton Athletic and non-league Cheltenham Town. He came to Australia in 1974 "and fell in love with the place".

However, that did not stop him from returning to Britain two years later for one last try at soccer's big time — an attempt that ended with a broken leg while playing for Cheltenham in an FA Cup tie.

Back in Australia he represented Brisbane Lions in the NSL before being 'pestered' into taking up coaching. He has held the Rockhampton position — which he says will fit in well with his new duties — since April, 1990.

He will make his first assessment of the strength of Australian women's soccer at the Canberra national championship next month. "After that New Zealand is looking for a couple of games as part of its warm-up to the World Cup."

It is to the World Cup of 1995 that Reid will set his target. "We have to get the assembly line working, churning out the players who can take us all the way."

"I'm thrilled to get this position with women's soccer — I believe we can be good for each other."

The Australian Women's Soccer Association squad for the 'Diabetes Australia' Youth series with New Zealand in Melbourne on September 4, 6 and 8 was: Samantha Dillion (Northern NSW), Amanda Paterson, Lisa Turnbull, Jane Hornsby, Tracey Weston, Ourania Amvrazis, Jackie Hadden, Kaye Yardin (NSW), Claire Nichols, Kim Revell, Tammy Sprott, Mia Thompson (Sth Queensland), Sara Griffiths (Sth Australia), Cathy Minniti (Vic), Sarah Fitzgerald (Tas), Angie Bean (ACT). Coach Peter Kelly; Assistant Coach Shirley Brown; Administrator Cass Hampton; Physiotherapist Kelly Woosnam.

— GRAHAM COOKE

ACT BRIEFS

★Canberra Metro striker Daniel Jukic will miss the youth team's NSW League finals series after straining his ankle ligaments in the match with Manly-North Shore.

Coach Ivan Gruicic said the injury was the result of a clumsy tackle. "It is bad luck for Daniel and bad luck for us as he was playing his best football of the season," he

said.

★Tuggeranong United has mourned the loss of one of its most promising junior players, Stephen Vigh, who died in a traffic accident. He played for the club's under-12 Division 1 team, and his coach, Jacky Gibson, said the team and the club as a whole were "devastated".

"Not only was Stephen a speedy right winger with many goals to his credit, he was a great

team player," he said.

His teammates formed a guard of honour, and many club officials and parents attended his funeral service at St Anthony's Church, Wanniasa.

★The Federation Cup final between Canberra Croatia and Canberra City, abandoned before it began after a floodlight failure at Deakin Oval, will now be played at the same venue on Wednesday, September 11 at

8pm. The curtain-raiser will be the annual match between the ACT and Combined Services.

★Tuggeranong United beat Juventus 5-2 after extra time in the final of the Canberra Cup for ACT League reserve sides at Deakin Oval. The score after 90 minutes was 2-2. In the New Shield for sides in the Third Division and below, Belconnen United beat Canberra University 3-0.



Handy Andy strikes!

1ST GRADE MAJOR SEMI FINAL

C/BERRA METRO 1
S/LAND SHIRE 0

SUTHERLAND Shire and Canberra Metro jostled for more than ninety minutes in the First Grade Major Semi-Final, without a goal and with scoring chances thin on the ground.

It needed more than two minutes of stoppage time on referee Gary Power's watch to get the Metro side home with a typical Andy Ravenello header at the death.

The Sharks were without Shane Clinch for the first time this season and it probably showed.

Add to that lack-lustre performances from Darryl Sharp and Harry Christodoulou and an early injury to Scott Leney and Sutherland had problems giving a well disciplined Canberra a run for their money.

Play was even for most of the game, yet although Sutherland forced by far the greater majority of corners it was Canberra who looked better polished and capable of providing a suitable finish.

The greater urgency brought about by coach Tom Sermanni's double substitution in the last six minutes, lifted Canberra to do just enough to wear the Sharks down in the dying.

Sutherland had made most of the early running, Michael Lardis, one of their better players in attack, putting in a good cross in 10th minute, which eluded the strikers, but was happily turned away for a corner by the defence.

Grant Bard, the competition's topscorer, made great advances on the right and worked his way into the area in the 14th minute, but with Darryl Sharp free on the left. Bard managed to lose control of the ball at his feet, allowing the defence to scramble the ball to safety.

Bard worked hard, but



FIRST DIVISION
COMPILED BY
PAUL GOODWIN

had no luck and little support.

Another opportunity for the Sharks came in the 28th, Robbie O'Shea's free kick drifting over from the left and David Edmunds challenging Canberra 'keeper Paul Jones fiercely at the far post, failing narrowly to steer the ball home, with Jones coming off second best.

The only real effort by Canberra, before the break, was a glancing header by Andy Ravenello, saved well by Paul Dart, after Stan Dukic had crossed from the left, following a quickly taken corner kick in the 43rd minute.

Sutherland were pinned down in the their own half for long periods, without being in any real danger and relied on a swift counter attacking game.

They had another scoring chance in the 62nd minute when Michael Lardis lobbed the ball over the bar by enough to swear by, Lardis having received the ball from a corner on the left. Jones, however, appeared to have the situation covered.

Jones also read the move well in the 66th when Lardis was fed a through ball by Darryl Sharp and advanced on goal, but lost complete control of the ball in sight of goal.

Sutherland substitute Chris Condoleon was in the action when Grant Bard missed by far his side's best chance, as the ball provided on the left by Condoleon rebounded off the angle of post and crossbar in the 71st minute.

Bard had looked certain to break the ice, yet

as the alert Jones made the angle more difficult Bard had to find the top right corner and the ball swerved away a fraction too much.

Canberra was galvanised from that point and lifted the tempo to stage a late sustained effort.

A clever movement involving Ravello had come to nought in the 64th when the eventual cross went begging.

Then Zoran Pratezina set up Michael Musitano whose 70th minute shot was blocked and the same player had no more luck in the 72nd when Ravello's good cross from the left whistled past Musitano's ear at the edge of the six yard area.

Stan Dukic and Ravello signalled what was to come, moments later, with a dress rehearsal move in the 90th minute.

Dukic's corner on the left was well flighted and Ravello's leaping header had to be tipped over the bar by Paul Dart.

Two more corners ensued and from the third of these late pressure points, Dukic got over another well directed flag kick which the target man Tony Lemezina managed to nod on to the far

side of the area where Ravello, at last, connected with a stooping header to squeeze the ball centimetres inside the right post.

While Tom Sermanni was happy to get the points and admitted that the goal was one of his side's set moves, his opposite number Bill Rigby was a little surprised at the amount of stoppage time allowed in the game, which saw his side, perhaps, miss out on a quick passage into the Grand Final.

Sermanni did not find the game very enjoyable, as the tactics of the Sutherland team prevented his changes from playing their normal flowing game.

CANBERRA METRO: Paul Jones, Doug Marcina, Steve Vanzetti, Mladin Rogic, John Koch, Zoran Pratezina (Paul Beltrami 84), Joe Galletti, Michael Musitano (Bruce Grassick 84), Andy Ravenello, Tony Lemezina, Stan Dukic.

SUTHERLAND: Paul Dart, Dave Edmunds, Dave Ensor, Mike O'Shea, Geoff Biscaya, Robbie O'Shea, Michael Lardis, Harry Christodoulou, Scott Leney (Chris Condoleon 79), Grant Bard, Darryl Sharp (Tony Brantman 79).

REFEREE: Gary Power.

City by a mile

UNDER 19 MAJOR SEMI-FINAL

BLACKTOWN CITY 8
CANBERRA METRO 1

THE Major Semi-Final in Under-19's was expected to produce a good even contest, but the Blacktown side played with such assurance that they turned a slim, but secure, 1-0 half time lead into a resounding 8-1 win at the finish.

Scott McArdie headed a Jason Connelly cross over the bar for Blacktown in the 14th minute, while Paul Roberts was just over with a twenty metre drive two minutes later for the Canberra team.

Scott Xeureb, who has put in a number of senior appearances this term, did well to open the scoring in the 10th minute with a firm drive from well outside the area which hit the centre of the goal very sweetly indeed.

There had been a solid build up before this and a series of hasty clearances saw the ball land at the feet of Xeureb, who responded quickly with his

well struck delivery.

Canberra had nothing go right for them and seemed well down on confidence on the day.

They had the perfect chance to equalize in the 34th minute when Hayden Begbic handled a cross from the right inside his own penalty area.

Ante Juric looked awkward as he lifted his left foot shot wide of the right upright, from the spot kick and the side seemed to lose their way after this setback.

Blacktown went close on three occasions in the latter stages of the first half, but always looked like winning comprehensively as the game wore on.

Randell Easthorpe slid the ball into goal in the 48th, after getting a square pass from the right, to make it 2-0 and six minutes later the Demons had posted their third.

Xeureb and Easthorpe built up relentlessly down the left and with the aid of the ball falling nicely off a defender's legs. Scott McArdie was put through and executed his shot from close range to perfection.

In the 61st McArdie provided the cross which Xeureb laid in the path of the grateful Easthorpe who obliged with the fourth, an easy finish with a two wall pass to delight the now greedy Demons fans.

Daniel Macor showed courage in getting to a through ball before a defender and steering the ball past stand in keeper Claudio Carravaggio to give Canberra supporters a forlorn hope of more to come.

It was not to be and Blacktown soon made it five. Xeureb repeating his first goalscoring shot with a drive from outside the box after a nice cross by Troy Shipley in the 73rd.

Stan Suman, another to taste First Grade football regularly this sea-

son, was able to come on as substitute and score a hat-trick to take his team's tally to eight.

His first in the 75th was a classic far post header after a cross by Jason Mifsud, who had made a fine run down the right flank.

The second was a cheeky long range shot which the Canberra 'keeper expected to go wide of the post, but instead bounced off the inside of the upright and over the line.

The third was a solo effort by Suman, whose confidence mirrored that of his team in this game, for whom little, it seemed, could go wrong.

Every move worked, the ball ran for them and their collective experience was formidable against a Canberra side which had lost half its players to the senior side in the last few months.

It was such a sound victory by The Demons that they will start raging hot favourites in the Grand Final no matter who they meet.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Steve Mautone (Claudio Carravaggio 58), Jason Mifsud, Jason Connelly, Steve Tyerman, Hayden Begbic, Martin Abi Arrage, Scott McArdie (Stan Suman 62), Troy Shipway (Gary Jordan 77), Randell Easthorpe, Scott Xeureb, Matthew Heighway.

CANBERRA METRO: Dennis Maricic (Michael Giannasca 64), John Simic, David Milin, Paul Galletti, Ante Juric, Takis Arvanitis (Lazar Simeonev 49), Paul Roberts, Daniel Macor, Jason Swan, Zvonimir Rakic, Joe Skrtic (Pat Cosentini 46).

REFEREE: David Owen.

Goals galore

THE four hundred or so spectators who turned up at St George Stadium on Sunday were treated to contrasting Major Semi-Final games, with no fewer than nine goals being scored in the Under-19 fixture, but only a last gasp clincher in the First Grade affair.

In steamy conditions the day produced a rather one sided contest between Blacktown, the minor premiers and Canberra who were runners up.

While Blacktown had gone through the season incurring only one defeat Canberra was only four points behind them and had sustained only one more defeat than the Demons.

The effortless 4-1 win over BHP Austral indicated the possibility of a hard fought match but Blacktown was always going to win and win handsomely they did.

The main game was also expected to be close, the two sides having a healthy respect for one another and perhaps too much of that commodity was shown, as neither side would commit many players forward.

There were few chances to thrill the crowd and most had given up hope of getting a result within the 90 minutes, when the decider came from a straight forward set-piece

in stoppage time.

Canberra will now have a three week wait in First Grade to see if they can improve on their runners-up performances in three of the last four Grand Finals.

The Under-19's will need to make a separate bus trip to Sydney for the Final in a fortnight and must put that horror behind them.

Sutherland's senior side, who had not played

for a fortnight will wait two more weeks to see if they can reach the Grand Final, the incentive being that the side they would meet. Canberra Metro, is one they know plenty about already.

The Blacktown Demons Under-19s are going to be hard to keep out now and will appreciate the break, with the big game being staged at the Gabbie to add to their satisfaction.

Even Steven

THE First Grade Minor Semi-Final between Rockdale Ilinden and Blacktown City should produce a good contest at the Gabbie Stadium on Sunday.

A home win is expected, although, strictly speaking, this is a neutral venue in the context of a Finals series.

Blacktown were beaten by Canberra, who have since made the form good by reaching the Grand Final at Sutherland's expense.

A bigger crowd is anticipated than at either of the first two weekend's of matches as both sides are known as entertainers.

The tussle between Stewart Porter and Bruno Beddoni with the

Blacktown defence and the return of Greg Lerond to add the speed dimension will make for a good spectacle on the lush Gabbie surface.

The Demons are bound to be competitive with Geoff Gunning and Lawrie McKinna a handful for Richard Buchanan and Darren Wilson at the heart of the Ilinden defence.

After the disappointment of the Sutherland-Canberra match, this one could produce a few goals and the sudden-death nature will ensure a lively contest for the right to meet Sutherland a week later.

In the Under-19 match Sutherland plays BHP Austral with the Sharks expected to win their way through this time to have a crack at Canberra.

BIRRONG SPORTS SOCCER CLUB

Requires a Director of Coaching for the 1992 Season. Level 2 or above.

All applications in writing to the Secretary

Mr J. Love

69 Waloron Road
CHESTER HILL 2162 NSW

☎ (02) 644 5483

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

1992 COMPETITIONS

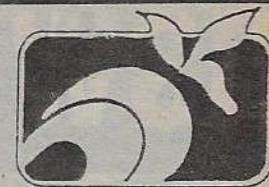


Applications are now being accepted from clubs wishing to participate in the NSW Soccer Federation in 1992, in the following competitions:

- SUPER LEAGUE
- FEDERATION DIVS 1,2,3,4,5,6
- WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE
- SYDNEY & DISTRICT LEAGUE

Applications forms are available from
**THE GENERAL MANAGER,
NSW SOCCER FEDERATION,
235/257 Meurants Lane,
PARKLEA, NSW.2155**

☎ (02) 629 1800, Fax: 629 3770



Waverley up

SECOND division champions Waverley, far from impressive advanced to the grand final after downing Dulwich Hill 1-0 at Bensley Road on Sunday.

With the match finely balanced, it was up to the replacements on both sides to provide the necessary spark and super-sub Barry Walker chimed in to provide the winner three minutes from time.

Dulwich Hill had enjoyed much of the possession throughout the match, however, the runners-up in the league failed to display any killer instinct around the target and Waverley custodian Les Behari was again in commanding form.

The injection of ex-socceroo Joe Watson into the fray after 59 minutes, tipped the scales Waverley's way, however, just seven minutes on the park and Watson was sent off along with Dulwich Hill defender Monsalve following a scuffle.

The tide had turned a little the favourites' way during Watson's brief appearance, the addition of clever striker Barry Walker giving Waverley the extra dimension they had lacked during the first 70 minutes of the match.

The first half was dominated by Dulwich Hill, Carlos Donoso, forever probing, Tome and Zelco Beres constant menaces to the efficient Waverley back four.



However, raid after raid Dulwich Hill pushed relentlessly into their opponents' penalty area with Duffy, Corapovski, Beres twice and Frank Speranza all missing gilt edged opportunities.

The best chance came in the 38th minute, Beres latched onto a cross on the left, cleverly laying the ball off for Duffy who should have scored but clipped the ball over the bar right in front.

Donoso smashed a volley on target from 25 metres stretching Behari to save in the 41st minute, before Tome threaded his way through but his shot blocked on the stroke of half-time.

Waverley looked more dangerous after the interval, Frank Leyden steering a chance wide after a flick on from Eric Ferguson in the 51st minute and the top scorer Paul Harriott volleying wide at the far post following a cross from Ferguson in the 59th minute.

Leyden went close following a Watson free kick in the 66th minute, his powerful header saved by the legs of a well

positioned Kevin Farrer.

The contest moved up a gear following two sendoffs, Tome beat his marker and crossed for substitute Nelio Borges looming at the far post, however, fullback Eddie Tesoro came to the rescue to head off the line 10 minutes from time.

From the clearance Waverley should have gone ahead, Harriott broke free and set Ferguson up from in front, however, his first time shot was brilliantly saved by Farrar diving to his left.

As the match hurtled towards extra-time, yet another Michael Smith long free kick was missed by two defenders, fell for Barry Walker who calmly came inside and slotted the ball inside the post.

Dulwich Hill were far from outclassed by the runaway league champions, the difference between the two sides however, was Waverley's killer instinct in front of goal.

Waverley booked their place in the grand final on September 29 at St George Stadium, while Dulwich Hill meet the winner of the Petersham versus Mt Pritchard clash in the final on September 22.

Glen does his block

BY MIKE JOHNSON

WARRINGAH'S Glen Sterrey opened his jaws wide as though he was about to swallow diminutive referee Alex Spirovski.

Instead he gave the genial little man in black an almighty verbal lashing.

Mr Spirovski fell back half a step, then fumbled in his top pocket and out came the card, bright red and brandished like a shield in front of Sterrey's face.

"OFF!"

It was the point of high drama in the elimination semi-final between Rockdale Ilinden and Warringah Freshwater.

The score was 2-1 to Rockdale and the referee had just awarded a penalty to Rockdale with two minutes to go.

Sterrey, still protesting went on his way.

He got to the sideline and turned his head to see Rockdale striker, Bruno Beddoni have his tame penalty kick easily saved by Warringah's neat and efficient goalkeeper, Geoff Gunning.

Then the whistle blew for full-time and Sterrey must have wondered why he had allowed himself to get

carried away with so little time left and destroy his sound disciplinary record in Australian soccer.

The incident showed Sterrey's commitment to that game.

He is Warringah's captain and their coach and these dual responsibilities do produce commitments and passion.

There was little enough of these qualities in the rest of the game.

And therein lies a danger for this series.

Despite the use of quality stadiums at the Gabbie and St George, both of them with good playing surfaces, this top five series can produce mundane fare, just as in the main they have now for almost 15 seasons.

Since the onset of National League to NSW, State League play-offs have generally been under promoted, under supported and under performed.

The play-offs became an after-thought, even a nuisance for the team that won the league and with it possible promotion to national league.

Now the NSW Soccer Federation has attempted to update its play-offs this year, in line with its improved State League.

However, it has put an in-built status obstacle in the way of the play-offs.

Sutherland will receive \$20,000 for winning the league premiership.

The grand final winner only gets \$5000.

That imbalance may need to be redressed if we are to get a return to real top-five fever and intensity.

The Rockdale-Warringah prelim semi-final was one of the worst games of football I have seen this year.

Mr Spirovski, a referee who did a very good job with my team against Sydney Macedonia just a few weeks ago, unlike the players, seemed to have caught on to the importance of the occasion.

This was reflected in his liberal sprinkling of yellow cards throughout the game.

It was only his performance that attracted attention and constant noise from the crowd.

He turned what was a poor game into a disaster of stopping and starting while giving petty trips, pushings and shovings the yellow badge they did not deserve.

Alex Spirovski believes he has a role to play in keeping the game flowing, with as few interruptions as possible.

This is something referees need to be coached and encouraged in by their instructors.

It is a must for these big, end of season play-off games — once again wherever possible.

The Warringah-Rockdale game was benign and harmless.

It sent many of the four hundred spectators into doleful inertia, enlivened only by the sporadic yelling at the referee.

Maybe the key to Alex's fussy refereeing was the referees' inspector whom I met at the end of the game.

He had been watching Alex's every move, jotting down notes, memorising flaws, mistakes and even his good points.

The danger is that today's referees are trying to please their minds, the inspectors, more than they are trying to please the spectators by giving them a free-flowing game.

It is something the Federation constantly needs to keep its eye on as it tries to turn soccer around in this state.

And as it pushes its shoulders hard against the wheel up there at Parklea, the Federation needs to give the State League top five series more financial status.

Perhaps the grand final winner should have equal sharing of prize-money with the premiership winner.

Rockdale, if it could win this, for them, five game series would certainly deserve an equal sharing with Sutherland of the prizemoney for 1991.

Second and third placed, Blacktown and Canberra, respectively only a two point score draw or three point win behind Sutherland in the premiership table, are both worthy of equal sharing of prize-money with the Sharks if either of them win the grand final.

Passion, intensity, caring, wanting — this is what the players need to bring to the play-off games.

If they do it, it will rub off on their supporters.

There will be more of them come along and they will make themselves heard.

There is no club game in the Australian sporting calendar that should match a sudden death semi-final, final or grand-final.

This is a reality in all Australian football codes except soccer.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

PRESENTATION EVENING



★ **FRIDAY OCTOBER 11 7PM** ★
BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB
6 GREENFIELD PARADE
BANKSTOWN

★ TICKETS \$30ea may be purchased from the NSW Soccer Federation before 30.9.91.

★ TABLE BOOKINGS can be made for 8/10 persons

★ DRESS strictly formal — black tie.

PRESENTATIONS

- Federation Medal — Best & Fairest
- Players' Player of the Year
- Premiership Trophies, State Leagues 1 & 2 (both grades), Federation Leagues 3/7, Women's State League.
- Leading scorers, SL 1 & 2 (both grades).
- Best & Fairest Awards, State League 1 & 2, Federation League 3, Womens State League.
- Referee of the Year.
- Fair Play Awards, State Leagues 1 & 2, Federation League 3.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION,
235/257 Meurants Lane, PARKLEA NSW 2155.

☎ (02) 629 1800 Fax: 629 3770

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION LTD

STATE LEAGUE

CHAMPIONSHIP TOP FIVE

★ **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15** ★

FIRST DIVISION: MAJOR SEMI-FINAL

GABBIE STADIUM 2.30pm

BLACKTOWN CITY v ROCKDALE ILINDEN

U19: BHP AUSTRAL v SUTHERLAND SHIRE 12.30pm

SECOND DIVISION: MINOR SEMI-FINAL

BENSLEY ROAD 2.30pm

PETERSHAM v MT PRITCHARD

U19: PORT HACKING v AUBURN YUGAL 12.30pm

Finals and Grand Finals to come!

PHONE RESULTS SERVICE 0055 22681

See State League action this week!

PARRAMATTA MELITA EAGLES S.C. LTD YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

MONDAYS U/13	14th, 21st, 28th Oct. — 4th Nov.
WEDNESDAYS U/14	16th, 23rd, 30th Oct. — 6th Nov.
THURSDAY U/15	17th, 24th, 31st Oct. — 7th Nov.
FRIDAYS U/17	18th, 25th, 1st Nov. — 8th Nov.

venue

RAY MARSHALL RESERVE
Wellington Rd, STH GRANVILLE
TIME 6PM-8PM

Written applications for positions of
YOUTH LEAGUE COACHES
TO

THE CHAIRMAN, YOUTH LEAGUE
23 Cook St, DUNDAS 2117

BY 24.9.91
ENQUIRIES: A. PRESTON 871 4289
R. SARGENT 634 1056

SOCCER POOLS



THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 320

SAT. 14th SEPTEMBER, 1991

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHELSEA	LEEDS	1
	COVENTRY	NOTTS C.	2
	CRYSTAL P.	ARSENAL	3
	LIVERPOOL	ASTON VILLA	4
	LUTON	OLDHAM	5
	MAN. CITY	SHEFF. WED.	6
	NORWICH	WEST HAM	7
	NOTTINGHAM F.	WIMBLEDON	8
	SHEFFIELD UTD.	EVERTON	9
	SOUTHAMPTON	MAN. UTD.	10
	TOTTENHAM	Q.P.R.	11

ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BARNLEY	IPSWICH	12
	BLACKBURN	PORT VALE	13
	BRIGHTON	WATFORD	14
	BRISTOL C.	TRANMERE	15
	CHARLTON	PORTSMOUTH	16
	GRIMSBY	PLYMOUTH	17
	MIDDLESBORO	LEICESTER	18
	NEWCASTLE	WOLVES	19
	OXFORD UTD.	MILLWALL	20
	SOUTHEND	BRISTOL R.	21
	SWINDON	SUNDERLAND	22

ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BIRMINGHAM	PETERBORO	23
	BOURNEMOUTH	BOLTON	24
	BRADFORD C.	CHESTER	25
	BRENTFORD	READING	26
	BURY	HUDDERSFIELD	27
	EXETER	HARTLEPOOL	28
	LEYTON O.	DARLINGTON	29
	STOKE	FULHAM	30
	SWANSEA	PRESTON	31
	TORQUAY	SHREWSBURY	32
	WEST BROM	STOCKPORT	33
	WIGAN A.	HULL	34

ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BARNET	DONCASTER	35
	BLACKPOOL	CARDIFF	36
	CARLISLE	LINCOLN	37
	CHESTERFIELD	SCUNTHORPE	38

RESERVE MATCHES

ENGLISH DIVISION 4	HEREFORD	BURNLEY	39
	MAIDSTONE	WALSALL	40
	ROCHDALE	NORTHAMPTON	41
	SCARBORO	ALDERSHOT	42
	WREXHAM	GILLINGHAM	43
	FARNBORO	RUNCORN	44

G.M. VALX. CONF. LGE.	KID'NMINSTER	WELLING UTD.	45
	TELFORD	BARROW	46
	WITTON A.	MERTHYR T.	47
	DUNFERMLINE	AIRDRIE	48
	HIBERNIAN	FALKIRK	49
	MOTHERWELL	ABERDEEN	50

SCOT. PREMIER DIVISION	RANGERS	DUNDEE U.	51
	S. JOHNSTONE	CELTIC	52
	ST. MIRREN	HEARTS	53
	DUNDEE	AYR	54
	FORFAR	CLYDEBANK	55

★ Winning match numbers
and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia, Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

Get your Pools in!

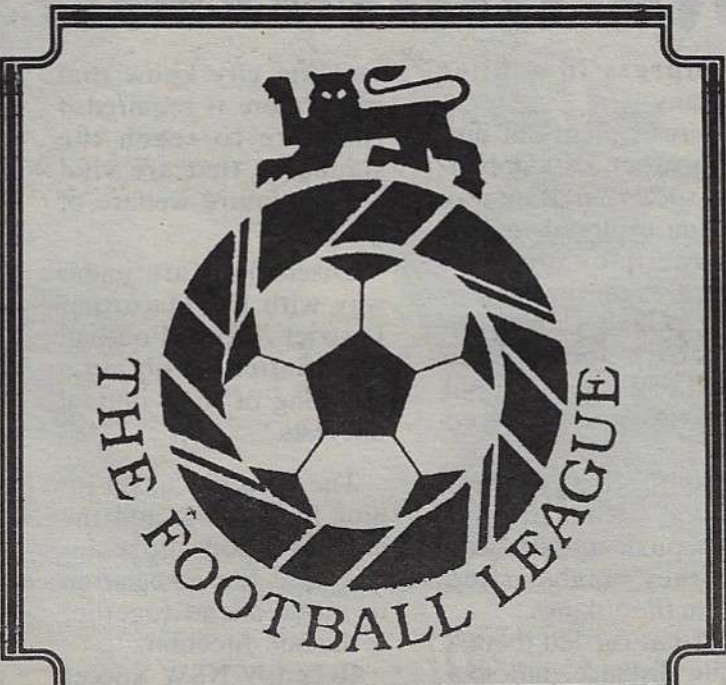
It takes only six numbers to win.

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 319

SAT. 7th SEPTEMBER, 1991

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	COVENTRY	1	1-2
	ASTON VILLA	TOTTENHAM	2	0-0
	EVERTON	CRYSTAL P.	3	2-2
	LEEDS	MAN. CITY	4	3-0
	MAN. UTD.	NORWICH	5	3-0
	NOTTS C.	LIVERPOOL	6	1-2
	OLDHAM	SHEFF. UTD.	7	2-1
	Q.P.R.	SOUTHAMPTON	8	2-2
	SHEFF. WED.	NOTTINGHAM F.	9	2-1
	WEST HAM	CHELSEA	10	1-1
	WIMBLEDON	LUTON	11	3-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BRISTOL R.	GRIMSBY	12	2-3
	DERBY	BARNLEY	13	1-1
	IPSWICH	SOUTHEND	14	1-0
	LEICESTER	BRISTOL C.	15	2-1
	MILLWALL	CAMBRIDGE U.	16	1-2
	PLYMOUTH	CHARLTON	17	0-2
	PORTSMOUTH	BRIGHTON	18	0-0
	PORT VALE	SWINDON	19	2-2
	SUNDERLAND	BLACKBURN	20	1-1
	TRANMERE	NEWCASTLE	21	3-2
	WATFORD	MIDDLESBORO	22	1-2
	WOLVES	OXFORD UTD.	23	3-1
	BOLTON	WEST BROM.	24	3-0
	CHESTER	BOURNEMOUTH	25	0-1
	DARLINGTON	STOKE	26	0-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	FULHAM	SWANSEA	27	3-0
	HARTLEPOOL	LEYTON O.	28	2-3
	HUDDERSFIELD	EXETER	29	0-0
	HULL	BURY	30	0-1
	PETERBORO	WIGAN A.	31	0-0
	PRESTON	BRADFORD C.	32	1-1
	READING	BIRMINGHAM	33	1-1
	SHREWSBURY	BRENTFORD	34	1-0
ENG. DIV. 4	BURNLEY	CREWE	35	1-1
	CARDIFF	ROCHDALE	36	1-2
	DONCASTER	WREXHAM	37	3-1
	GILLINGHAM	SCARBORO	38	2-0



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 2/9/91 — WEEK 319

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED	NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURRED
1 37 2 41 3 47 4 27 5 36 6 60 7 42 8 61 9 52 10 69	1 5 2 3 0 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools.

RESULTS OF WEEK 319 SAT SEPTEMBER 7, 1991

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
3, 8, 19, 32, 33, 35.
Supplementary Number: 20.

UK SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE	Arsenal 1 Coventry 2, Aston Villa 0 Tottenham 0, Everton 2 Crystal Palace 2, Leeds 3 Manchester City 0, Manchester United 3 Norwich 0, Notts County 1 Liverpool 2, Oldham 2 Sheffield United 1, Queen's Park Rangers 2 Southampton 2, Sheffield Wednesday 2 Nottingham Forest 1, West Ham 1 Chelsea 1, Wimbledon 3 Luton 0.
ENGLISH DIVISION TWO	Bristol Rovers 2 Grimsby 3, Derby 1 Barnsley 1, Ipswich 1 Southend 0, Leicester 2 Bristol City 1, Millwall 1 Cambridge 2, Plymouth 0 Charlton 2, Port Vale 2 Swindon 2, Portsmouth 0 Brighton 0, Sunderland 1 Blackburn 1, Tranmere 3 Newcastle 2, Watford 1 Middlesbrough 2, Wolverhampton 3 Oxford 1.
ENGLISH DIVISION THREE	Bolton 3 West Bromwich 0, Chester 0 Bournemouth 1, Darlington 0 Stoke 1, Fulham 3 Swansea 0, Hartlepool 2 Leyton Orient 3, Huddersfield 0 Exeter 0, Hull 0 Bury 1, Peterborough 0 Wigan 0, Preston 1 Bradford 1, Reading 1 Birmingham 1, Shrewsbury 1 Brentford 0.
ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR	Burnley 1 Crewe 1, Cardiff 1 Rochdale 2, Doncaster 3 Wrexham 1, Gillingham 2 Scarborough 0, Mansfield 1 Blackpool 1, Northampton 1 Barnet 1, Rotherham 0 Hereford 0, Scunthorpe 2 Maidstone 0, Walsall 3 Halifax 0, York 0 Chesterfield 1.
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION	Aberdeen 1 St Johnstone 2, Airdrieonians 0 Hibernian 1, Celtic 0 St Mirren 0, Dundee United 3 Dunfermline 0, Falkirk 0 Rangers 2, Hearts 2 Motherwell 0.
SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE	Ayr 1 Partick 3, Clydebank 1, Kilmarnock 1, Hamilton 4 Forfar 0, Montrose 2 Meadowbank 2, Morton 3 Dundee 0, Raith 1 Stirling 0.
SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO	Arbroath 3 East Stirling 3, Berwick 1 Brechin 1, Cowdenbeath 1, Albion 0, Dumbarton 0 Clyde 0, Queen of the South 1, Alloa 3, Stenhousemuir 2 East Fife 1, Stranraer 2, Queens Park 1.
DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION	Bognor 0 Sutton 0, Bromley 2 Grays 3, Carshalton 2 Basingstoke 1, Chesham 3 Marlow 0.
NORTHERN IRISH GOLD CUP, 2ND ROUND	Ard 0 Ballymena 2, Ballyclare 1, Bangor 2, Cliftonville 1 Coleraine 1, Crusaders 1, Glentoran 1, Distillery 2 Newry 1, Linfield 4 Larne 1, Omagh 2, Glenavon 3, Portadown 3 Carrick 1.
ENGLISH 1ST DIV	Manchester United 7 5 2 0 10 2 17 Liverpool 6 4 1 1 9 5 13 Manchester City 7 4 1 2 9 5 13 Leeds 6 3 3 0 12 4 12 Chelsea 7 3 3 1 13 10 12 Coventry 7 3 3 1 12 7 10 Wimbledon 6 3 3 1 12 11 7 10 Sheffield Wednesday 6 3 3 1 12 10 9 10 Crystal Palace 5 3 3 1 11 8 10 Tottenham 7 3 3 1 11 8 10 Oldham 7 3 3 1 11 8 10 Notts County 7 3 3 1 11 8 10 Nottingham Forest 7 3 3 1 11 8 10 Aston Villa 7 2 2 3 8 9 8 Arsenal 7 2 2 3 10 12 8 Norwich 7 1 4 2 7 9 7 West Ham 7 1 4 2 7 9 7 Everton 7 1 4 2 7 9 7 Southampton 7 1 4 2 7 9 7 Luton 7 1 4 2 7 9 7 Queen's Park Rangers 7 0 2 5 6 13 2 Sheffield United 7 0 2 5 6 13 2
ENGLISH 2ND DIV	Middlesbrough 7 5 0 2 11 6 15 Leicester 7 5 0 2 11 6 15 Ipswich 6 4 1 1 11 10 13 Cambridge 6 4 1 1 12 8 12 Bristol City 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Tranmere 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Port Vale 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Swindon 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Wolverhampton 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Sunderland 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Derby 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Charlton 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Portsmouth 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Brighton 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Southend 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Grimsby 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Plymouth 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Blackburn 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Newcastle 6 3 3 2 11 7 11 Watford 6 3 3 2 11 7 11
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION	Hearts 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Rangers 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Hibernian 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Aberdeen 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Celtic 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Dundee United 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Motherwell 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Falkirk 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 St Johnstone 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Airdrieonians 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 St Mirren 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Dunfermline 6 5 0 1 11 6 11
SCOTTISH 1ST DIV	Dundee 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Ayr 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Partick 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Morton 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Hamilton 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Raith 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Clydebank 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Meadowbank 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Kilmarnock 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Montrose 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Stirling 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Forfar 6 5 0 1 11 6 11
SCOTTISH 2ND DIVISION	Clyde 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Arbroath 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Dumbarton 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Cowdenbeath 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Berwick 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 East Fife 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Brechin 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Alloa 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 East Stirling 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Stranraer 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Queen's Park 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Stenhousemuir 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Albion 6 5 0 1 11 6 11 Queen of the South 6 5 0 1 11 6 11



CYPRUS UNITED'S 1991 LINE-UP

Cyprus United is OK

The excellent initial season's results achieved by Cyprus United in the NSW State League Second Division were in part due to obtaining the services of Tom Pontidas and Craig Sharpley.

Diminutive midfielder Pontidas has turned out in 45 National League matches with three clubs — Sydney Olympic, Wollongong City and Wollongong Macedonia.

Actually he is a Wollongong Macedonia player at present, but if negotiations can be completed as expected he will purchase his own contract and be free to move where he likes.

Sharpley, not quite as

well known, has been Sydney Olympic's Under-19 Player of the Year, and is a very handy operator who also obtained some experience in England.

But both of them are ecstatic over the coaching given to the team by that skilful campaigner, Vince Estavillo.

Said Sharpley: "I was nearly bought by Sutherland, but in any case I was prepared to play Second Division to receive the opportunity of being coached by Estavillo."

"It was worth a lot to have a season with him."

Pontidas' view was: "Estavillo has a lot to teach players in this game."

"You learn something worthwhile in ev-

ery coaching session he conducts."

These testimonials will not come as a surprise to those who recall Estavillo's record.

This former Uruguayan international finished his career with Sydney Olympic, but at his peak he was a regular with the Greek giants, Olympiakos.

Pontidas' career has been held back by injuries, but he now feels that he is ready to show his best.

Both Canterbury-

Marrickville and Rockdale Ilinden were keen to obtain his services for the 1991 State League season, but neither was keen to pay the on loan fee required by Wollongong Macedonia.

Pontidas says: "My

good friend Abbas Saad is now starring with Johore in Malaysia along with Alistair Edwards.

"Warren Spink and Craig Foster are both with Singapore."

"I rather fancy that I would go very well over there."

Craig Sharpley has played anywhere on the right side, and enjoys calling the shots from the centre of the midfield as well.

This season Estavillo has often used him to great success as an attacking right-back.

An undergraduate at the Catholic University at North Sydney, he is on the way to his degree in human movements studies.

One highlight of his season was to participate with the Aussie team at

the World Student Games in Sheffield, England.

Included in the Aussie side were such well-known exponents as Paul Trimboli and Kimon Taliadoros of South Melbourne, former St George midfield star Craig Moffatt, as well as Andrew Young and Tony Giannasca of Canberra Metro.

Club president Peter Antoniou points to the stability of the Cyprus United Club.

Although it is separately incorporated, it works in tandem with the Cyprus Community of NSW licensed club in Stanmore Rd, Stanmore.

The club owns the huge premises they purchased from the former Newtown Leagues Club.

Mr Antoniou said: "Whilst we took a couple of on loan players in Tom Pontidas and Craig Sharpley, our main direction is to field a big proportion of our own players who are from 18 to 22 years of age."

"Our success in this respect can be gauged from the fact that we won the under-19 competition by a seven point margin."

"Apart from Vince Estavillo, we have Lakis Konistis as under-19 coach and he too is doing a very good job."

"In addition to coaching our team, he is assistant coach of the NSW women's team."

Supplying vital experience is Arthur Svinos, who had a period with Sydney Olympic.

Showing out well is 19-

year-old left wing striker George Hajitofis, whilst another youngster in John Mandolopoulos is making his way through the ranks.

The club is playing its home matches on Wentworth Park, Glebe, where in the past some mighty deeds were done by Pan Hellenic, Sydney Olympic and Sydney City, and in much earlier days by Pyrmont-Balmain.

But it may not be that far down the track till the club obtains its own arena, thanks to their own initiative and the co-operation of one of the municipal councils of the area.

Certainly, Cyprus United is showing the type of initiative that will see both them and the code going places within the next few years.

CAMPBELLTOWN WERE HANDICAPPED IN 1991

The loss of two leading players just too much

TWO unscheduled slipups involving leading players Ian Wotherspoon and Ray Carney put Campbelltown Vikings on the back foot for their 1991 season in NSW Second Division.

Wotherspoon, with his NSL experience, was the kingpin of the side, but a broken leg deprived the team of his services.

And Carney, who built a fine reputation as a goalscoring striker with Avala, fell by the way-

side with a knee ligament problem.

The Vikings ended the season in ninth position, and the final table demonstrated a shortage of goals coupled nevertheless with a sound defensive record.

With sturdy goalkeeper Tony Avellino having a look at the English scene and then moving to Sydney Macedonia, David Lavric showed out well as his replacement.

For next season the club will have to turn to more promotion of its young products in order

to impress in similar company.

There is plenty of ambition around Campbelltown soccer, and the way is being explored to harness the full enthusiasm of the area for the game.

Years ago Campbelltown City Soccer Club got off to a fine start, but then the pace slowed down.

Campbelltown Gunners and Glenquarrie tried to push ahead, and then they amalgamated to form the Vikings.

This has carried them a certain distance, but soccer interests in the huge

satellite city know that much more is required if they are to reach the standards that are vital for the future welfare of the game.

Discussions are under way with the Macarthur District Soccer Football Association to obtain a blending of their mutual interests.

The area has 6,000 junior footballers, and the idea is for both the senior club and the association to move ahead together in the one direction.

Recently NSW Soccer Federation general man-

ager Peter Thorne and Australian Soccer Federation development officer Steve Darby visited Campbelltown to hear what progress is being made.

If the hoped for meeting of minds in the area takes place, then it would not surprise if the Campbelltown club centred its activities on at Lynwood Park.

For one thing it certainly is a better wet weather pitch than the Benley Road complex.

Settlement of the plans for progress would bring Campbelltown

City Council well into the scene.

In the offing is a cantilever type grandstand 30 metres long at Lynwood Park, with total seating for 800 people, of which 300 will be under cover.

The blending of Campbelltown and Macarthur interests is certainly worth all the effort that is being expended.

The improvements should be the making of the code in this vital city — and in addition it is a vital area for progress for the state of New South Wales.

The NSW Leading Scorers

GOAL SCORERS Division 1

- 13- Grant Bard, Laurie McKinna.
- 12- Jose Iriarte.
- 11- Stewart Porter, Louie Dounis.
- 10- Tony Lemezina, Scott Gilbert.
- 9- Bruno Beddoni.
- 8- Robert O'Shea.
- 7- Ralph Maier, John McKie, Stephen Berry.
- 6- Zoran Ilic, Paul Foster, Geoff Gunning, Darryl Sharp, Nick Oustambasidis, Wayne Pierce.
- 5- Jarek Nowicki, Randall Easthorpe, John Koch, Scott Deveridge, Osvaldo El Ali.
- 4- Zlatko Markovski, Sasha Spirovski, Saso Boskovski, Anthony Versi, Anthony Parison, Rodney Wyatt, Harry Christodoulo, Dean McWhirter.
- 3- David Lowe, Doug Elphick, Alex Bundalo, Mark Butler, Shane Clinch, Vladan Kadric, Andrew Ravanello, Peter

NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE LEAGUE: FIRST DIVISION	
Sutherland Shire v Canberra Metro	0-1
Blacktown City v Canberra Metro	8-1
STATE LEAGUE: SECOND DIVISION	
Waverley v Dulwich Hill	1-0
Cyprus Utd v Dulwich Hill	1-0
STATE LEAGUE: THIRD DIVISION	
Lemnos Allstars v Belmore Hercules	1-0
Hills Utd v Bathurst 75	2-0
FEDERATION LEAGUE FOURTH	
Concord Jnrs v SSC Zagreb	0-0 (4-3 pen)
SSC Zagreb v Concord Jnrs	0-1
FEDERATION LEAGUE FIFTH	
Alexander v Fogolar Furlan	0-1
GNS Utd v Abruzzi	2-1
FEDERATION LEAGUE SIXTH	
Balmain v Greystanes	1-3
New Welcome v St Josephs	3-0
FEDERATION LEAGUE SEVENTH	
Sydney Cretans v Western Suburbs	3-3 (9-10 pen)
Sydney Cretans v Rockdale Youth	1-3

Katholos, David Enzor, Michael Boogaard, Zoran Pratezina.

2- Bob Naumov, Darren Read, Scott Leney, Chris Ackerley, Glenn Sterrey, Robert De Ceglia, Stan Suman, Birol Sertbas, Phillip Moss, Howard Tredinnick, John Gregson, Adam Kwasniewski, D Segreto, Miodrag Radovic, Peter Murray, George Fernandez, Canbek Genc, Andrew Callanan, Kevin Hagan, Doug Marcina, Aiden Grimes, Michael Pillemer.

1- Adam Leatherbarrow, Troy Halpin, Mirko Radosaljevic, Stan Dukic, Paul Dameski, Nick Meredith, Craig Collins, Craig McGregor, Vladan Radic, John Radman, Marcello Massei, Milan Bla-

gojevic, Anthony Surjan, Bill Pilovski, Spiro Hantzis, Ali Senol, Michael O'Shea, Rado-van Filipovic, Martin Driene, Andrew Koczka, Mathew Heighway, Shane Williams, Dominic Longo, Vic Masi, M Lowe, Paul Hunter, Gurkan Tasdemir, Uros Calic, David Jones, Darren Stewart, Ian Hunter, S Lombardo, Tony Genoveso, Zoki Adioski, M Rogic, John Gibson, Branko Radman, Mark Reveley, P Beltrami, Greg Lerond, Ben Callcott, Bobby Ivastanin, Joe Gagetti, Kon Tsauosidis, M Farac, Robert Casserley, Andrew Young.

Division 2

16- Paul Harriott.
10- Safet Katovik, Ali Nagi.

VICTORIA RESULTS

WESTGATE 1 (Gnjidic) ALTONA GATE 3 (Lingurovski, Aslimoski, Egan), MORWELL FALCONS 2 (McMullen, Harrison) SPRINGVALE UTD 0, CROYDON 4 (Cubitt, Field, Dobson, Brack) BROADMEADOWS 3 aet (Magnano, Kalayci, Akyoi), JUVENTUS 1 (Inglese) CLIFTON HILL 1 (Maftos) (4-5 pen), THOMASTOWN 1 (Giaccherini) SUNBURY UTD 0, KEILOR 1 (Pocock) PT MELBOURNE 1 (Kourelis), (4-5 pen), STH DANDE-NONG 1 (Curovic) BENTLEIGH GREEN 2 (Micheil, Toumazou), GREEN GULLY 3 (Hunter 2, Becvinovski) CRANBOURNE 0, SPRINGVALE CITY 2 (Chisholm, McGrellis) SEAFORD UTD 1 (Stirton).

9- Glenn Jeffrey, Wayne Farnsworth.
8- C Smith, E Hatzitofis, Graeme Williamson.

7- Sepp Disch, Mark Pratt, Rene Licata, Rob Jerkovic.

6- Tom Pontidas, Andrew Ferris, Barry Walker, Eric Ferguson, D Stephenson, Charlie Vanegas, David Bat-ten, Alex Araujo.

5- Martin Bourke, Darren Pratt, Bernie Voloder, Derek Caisley, Matthew Bingley, Ian Vaughan, Tony Perinich, R Whyte.

4- Stephen Baggott, A Juhart, J Matosin, Paul Mamo, R Carney, Jorge Cerro, Matthew Garland, P Xiourou-pas, Ercan Osman.

3- Andrew Ollier, V Zoric, Michael Reda, F Jebrael, Tom McCul-loch Leo Pintos, De-

nnis Duarte, Frank Leyden, Athos Svinos, C Jones, C Donoso, S Karavatakis, S Black-burn, Mark Callanan, Nick Orlic, M Eideh, J Manolopoulos.

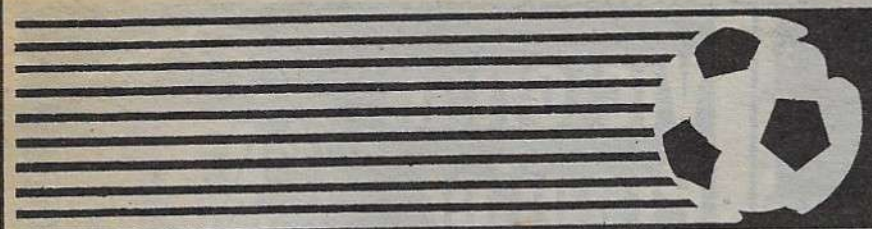
2- Peter Willis, Jason Gribble, Mark Smith, Hassan Kdouh, Mario Philippou, Trebor Daley, Andrew Dow-ling, Ali Reda, Pablo Cardozo, D Close, N Borges, Paul Pettenon, Eddie Tesoro, Alan Stajcic, D Naylor, P Treacy, Alberto Arbe-lo, Glenn Johnson, De-cland McEvoy, Z Be-res, Alvaro Folladosa.

1- J Christou, C Poole, S Paul, B Dene, N Tome, G Corapovs-ki, Joe Watson, Anthony Driene, Mar-tin Abi-Arrage, Mark Drysdale, Tim Andersen, C Lowe, Hakan Ergun.

Victorian Premier League



STATE LEAGUE DIV ONE	
North Geelong	27 18 6 3 63 21 42
Knox City	27 18 5 4 67 24 41
Springvale City	28 18 4 6 53 23 40
Bell Park	27 12 5 10 35 34 29
Caulfield City	27 10 8 9 29 33 28
Frankston Pines	27 10 8 9 38 43 28
Westgate	27 11 5 11 39 38 27
Werribee	27 9 8 10 24 31 26
Western Subs	27 7 10 10 36 42 24
Ringwood City	27 5 12 10 25 33 22
Melbourne City	27 7 7 13 32 45 21
Mordialloc	27 7 7 13 27 41 21
Essendon City	27 7 7 13 26 42 21
Port Melbourne	27 6 8 13 31 41 20
Box Hill	27 6 4 17 23 57 16
VIC PROV ONE RESERVES	
Bell Park	26 16 7 3 59 31 39
Melbourne City	27 17 5 5 57 30 39
Knox City	26 18 2 6 80 41 38
Springvale City	28 15 7 6 61 30 37
Port Melbourne	27 13 7 7 50 37 33
Caulfield City	26 14 5 7 44 36 33
North Geelong	26 11 10 5 49 32 32
R. Wood City	27 11 7 9 40 31 29
Werribee	27 11 4 12 32 39 26
Box Hill	27 9 5 13 38 45 23
Western Subs	27 6 5 16 29 70 17
Frankston Pines	27 6 4 17 43 71 16
Mordialloc	27 5 4 18 30 50 14
Essendon City	27 3 8 16 28 62 14
Westgate	27 3 6 18 27 72 12
STATE LEAGUE DIV TWO	
Richmond	29 23 2 4 61 17 48
Altona City	29 19 7 3 56 27 45
Broadmeadows	29 13 9 7 48 36 35
Doncast Rovers	29 12 9 8 44 33 33
Chelsea	29 14 4 11 51 38 32
Bentleigh Green	29 13 4 12 56 30 30
Keilor	29 10 9 10 42 39 29
Numawad City	28 11 4 13 42 45 26
Sunbury Utd	29 10 6 13 32 35 26
Waverley City	29 11 4 14 45 49 26
Clifton Hill	28 9 6 13 41 41 24
Sandringham	29 10 4 15 53 55 24
Brighton	29 8 8 13 30 40 24
Geelong	29 10 4 15 31 55 24
Dandenong	29 4 10 15 33 51 18
Suns. Heights po	29 6 6 17 22 64 18
STATE LEAGUE DIV TWO RESERVES	
Clifton Hill	29 19 7 3 66 25 45
Keilor	29 17 7 5 60 25 41
Altona City	29 14 10 5 69 34 38
Richmond	29 14 8 7 60 41 36
Doncast Rovers	29 14 7 8 54 38 35
Brighton	29 12 8 9 47 40 32
Broadmeadows	29 14 7 4 44 39 30
Chelsea	29 10 10 9 59 64 30
Suns. Heights po	28 10 8 10 45 46 28
Sunbury Utd	29 10 6 13 34 61 26
Dandenong	29 7 10 12 29 40 24
Waverley City	29 11 2 16 47 62 24
Numawad City	29 8 6 15 42 50 22
Bentleigh Green	29 7 6 16 46 66 20
Sandringham	28 5 7 16 41 72 17
Geelong	29 5 4 20 27 67 14
STATE LEAGUE DIV THREE	
Oakleigh Subs	26 17 6 3 51 19 40
East Bruns Ivan	26 16 5 5 53 22 37
Seaford Utd	26 17 2 7 57 35 36
Elt. Diam. Valley	26 13 9 4 43 27 35
Clayton	26 12 8 6 50 38 32
Corio Geelong	26 13 4 9 34 30 30
Clarinda	26 9 9 8 28 27 27
Moorabbin City	26 7 10 9 27 30 24
More. P.R. Cob.	26 10 3 13 30 53 23
Lalor Utd	26 10 2 14 34 33 22
Springvale Utd	26 7 8 11 25 36 22
Fitzroy City	26 7 4 15 31 62 18
Holland Park	26 3 5 18 26 39 11
Heidelberg City	26 1 5 20 15 53 7
STATE LEAGUE DIV THREE RESERVES	
Seaford United	26 19 6 1 69 21 44
Moorabbin City	26 13 8 5 50 29 34
Lalor Utd	26 12 10 4 37 16 34
East Bruns Ivan	26 11 9 6 48 35 31
Clayton	26 10 11 5 38 30 31
More. P.R. Cob.	26 12 3 11 57 45 27
Fitzroy City	26 9 9 8 36 37 27
Clarinda	26 9 8 9 36 41 26
Oakleigh Subs	26 9 7 10 34 39 25
Elt. Diam. Valley	26 7 11 8 34 39 25
Springvale Utd	26 8 6 12 38 48 22
Corio Geelong	26 6 4 16 31 60 16
Holland Park	26 4 3 19 20 36 11
Heidelberg City	26 4 3 19 25 77 11
STATE LEAGUE DIV FOUR	
Regent	24 14 8 2 48 19 36
Sth. Dandenong	24 14 6 4 45 20 34
Cranbourne	24 12 9 3 33 18 33
Karingal Utd	24 13 6 5 37 29 32
Pascoe Vale	24 9 8 7 41 40 26
Mornington	24 9 8 7 37 42 26
Rosanna	24 8 5 11 38 34 21
Yarraville	24 7 7 10 34 45 21
Hawt. Citizens	24 8 4 12 39 40 20
Hamlyn Rangers	24 7 5 12 27 41 19
Langwarrin	24 5 7 12 20 30 17
Boronia	24 5 6 13 29 43 16
Spring Condors	24 4 3 17 22 49 11
STATE LEAGUE DIV FOUR RESERVES	
Pascoe Vale	24 19 1 4 58 19 39
Sth. Dandenong	24 16 4 4 67 36 36
Langwarrin	24 15 6 3 47 18 36
Regent	24 12 5 7 35 24 29
Spring Condors	24 10 6 8 41 41 26
Karingal Utd	24 11 4 9 39 39 26
Cranbourne	24 11 3 10 50 34 25
Boronia	24 8 9 7 33 32 25
Rosanna	24 8 5 11 39 39 21
Hawt. Citizens	24 8 3 13 45 60 19
Hamlyn Rangers	24 4 7 13 26 51 15
Yarraville	24 3 4 17 33 60 10
Mornington	24 1 3 20 28 88 5
VIC PROV ONE FIRSTS	
Sth. Werribee	25 15 6 4 49 25 36
Sth. Springvale	24 14 8 2 41 20 36
Brunswick City	24 11 8 5 42 32 30
Frankston Utd	25 12 5 8 43 32 29
Melton	24 13 3 8 39 35 29
Westvale	25 12 4 9 44 30 28
Malvern City	24 10 5 9 27 26 25
Altona East	25 8 7 10 27 34 23
Berwick City	25 6 11 46 43 22
Yallourn	25 5 10 10 33 40 22
Forest Hill	25 5 7 13 38 48 17
Nth Sunshine	24 6 5 13 28 47 17
Knox Park	25 4 9 12 32 56 17
Williamstown	24 2 11 11 23 44 15
VIC PROV TWO FIRSTS	
Lalor	22 14 6 2 64 31 34
Hoppers Crossin	23 12 10 1 36 12 34
Brandon Park	22 15 2 5 35 23 32
East Geelong	22 10 7 5 40 24 27
Ballaarat	22 11 5 6 34 27 27
Nth Glenroy st	23 10 4 9 34 26 24
Lyndale Utd	24 10 4 10 34 34 24
Keysborough	23 7 10 6 35 36 24
Mentone Utd	23 9 5 9 35 35 23
Uni. of Mels	23 5 5 13 36 52 15
Eastern Park Br	23 4 4 15 31 51 12
Wantima	22 3 4 15 23 53 10
Meadow Park	23 2 6 15 18 50 10
VIC PROV TWO RESERVES	
Hoppers Crossin	23 16 4 3 45 15 36
Ballaarat	23 15 3 5 51 20 33
Nth Glenroy st	23 12 7 4 48 21 31
Lalor	23 11 7 5 45 21 29
Lyndale Utd	23 11 6 6 35 25 28
Brandon Park	23 10 6 7 42 39 26
Meadow Park	23 7 9 7 29 28 23
Uni. of Mels	23 9 4 10 43 33 22
Mentone Utd	24 5 8 11 32 55 18
East Geelong	23 5 7 11 31 34 17
Wantima	23 4 6 13 20 41 14
Eastern Park Br	23 4 5 14 22 53 13
Keysborough	23 2 6 15 12 60 10
VIC PROV THREE FIRSTS	
East Richmond	24 13 8 3 52 17 34
Glenroy	25 14 5 6 53 30 33
Hampton Park	25 12 9 4 50 32 33
Monbulk	22 12 8 5 46 32 32
Mitcham Utd	24 13 5 6 40 15 31
Kew Eagles	24 14 3 7 44 28 31
Batman Utd	25 11 6 36 45 27
Carrum Utd	25 7 9 9 27 35 23
Monash Uni.	25 8 6 11 45 51 22
South Yarra	22 7 7 8 39 30 21
Waverley Utd	23 5 6 12 22 45 16
St. Kilda	25 4 8 13 22 49 16
Ringwood Rovers	23 4 5 14 26 48 13
Port Utd	25 3 2 20 38 75 8
VIC PROV THREE RESERVES	
Hampton Park	24 19 2 3 96 25 40
Glenroy	23 17 2 4 93 30 36
Sth Yarra	24 15 6 3 51 26 36
Monbulk	22 13 5 4 53 24 31
East Richmond	21 13 4 4 51 36 30
Kew Eagles	23 9 8 6 41 47 26
Monash Uni.	24 11 3 10 68 35 25
Mitcham Utd	22 8 7 7 39 33 23
Carrum Utd	24 8 7 9 46 56 23
Batman Utd	24 6 4 14 42 66 16
Port Utd	24 3 7 14 24 59 13
Ring. d Rovers	25 3 6 16 24 81 12
St. Kilda	24 2 5 17 20 80 9
Waverley Utd	22 2 2 18 26 76 6
VIC PROV FOUR FIRSTS	
Sth. Want. Cre	22 14 5 3 69 26 33
Malvern Lem	22 14 5 3 52 23 33
Old Scotch	22 11 7 4 53 27 29
Keilor Utd	23 10 8 5 37 25 28
Riversdale	22 11 2 9 46 46 24
Sunshine Park	22 8 7 7 48 47 23
Diggers Rest	22 8 6 8 40 34 22
Wav. Wand	22 7 5 10 29 43 19
East Kew	22 6 6 10 37 40 18
Latrobe Uni	22 4 10 8 26 40 18
Beamaris	22 5 6 11 30 49 16
Collingwood	21 5 5 11 29 48 15
Oakleigh Utd	22 3 2 17 31 79 8
VIC PROV FOUR RESERVES	
Old Scotch	22 16 4 2 63 20 36
Sth. Want. Cretan	20 15 1 4 71 28 31
Malvern-Lemnos	21 14 3 4 61 26 31
Collingwood	21 14 3 4 56 29 31
Sunshine Park	22 9 5 8 51 42 23
Wav. Wanderers	22 8 7 7 38 39 23
Diggers Rest	22 10 3 9 37 38 23
Riversdale	22 6 8 8 38 51 20
East Kew	18 6 4 8 34 41 16
Beamaris	22 5 4 13 38 61 14
Keilor Utd	22 3 4 15 48 77 10
Latrobe Uni	21 2 5 14 38 81 9
Oakleigh Utd	21 2 5 14 38 81 9
VIC PROV FIVE FIRSTS	
Upfield	23 20 1 2 66 22 41
Melb Uni	21 14 4 3 71 29 32
Doncast Inter	21 12 5 4 44 26 29
Balwyn City	21 13 2 6 61 36 28
Endeav. Hills	21 12 4 5 50 33 28
Broad Utd	20 9 3 8 45 38 21
Alb. Pk Maccabi	21 7 4 10 29 36 18
Th. Bury Furlan	21 6 5 10 40 48 17
R.M.I.T.	22 6 5 11 28 57 17
Northern Utd	22 5 4 13 29 43 14
Diamond Valley	22 6 2 14 32 54 14
CamGramOBoys	22 2 7 13 27 51 11
Epping Concorde	22 3 4 15 30 76 10
VIC PROV FIVE RESERVES	
Upfield	22 17 4 1 57 21 38
Broad Utd	21 14 3 4 70 21 31
Melb Uni	22 13 5 4 46 24 31
Th. Bury Furlan	22 11 6 5 45 32 28
CamGramOBoys	22 11 5 6 41 22 27
Balwyn City	22 9 7 6 40 36 25
Endeav. Hills	21 8 4 9 39 33 20
Alb. Pk Maccabi	22 7 5 10 31 40 19
Diamond Valley	23 8 3 12 40 54 19
R.M.I.T.	22 7 2 13 41 55 16
Doncast Inter	22 3 6 13 22 50 12
Northern Utd	22 4 3 15 27 63 11
Epping Concorde	23 3 3 17 24 72 9
PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES	
Morwell Fal	25 19 4 2 64 19 42
Altona Gate	25 18 5 2 83 14 41
Bulleen	25 13 9 3 56 31 35
Thomastown	26 11 6 9 39 32 28
Green Gully	26 10 8 8 34 33 28
Croydon City	26 10 8 8 33 36 28
Fawkner	2



Vic Health supports the
Victorian Soccer Federation



Juve shocked by Clifton battlers

JUVENTUS 1
CLIFTON HILL 1
(Clifton Hill won
5-4 on pens)

**BY
PETER KOTSIRIS**
THE SHOCK of Dockerty Cup Round three fixtures saw battlers Clifton Hill down Premier League champions Brunswick Juventus 5-4 on penalties after an extra time deadlock at 1-1.

In a dramatic finish the Hillmen equalised in the last minute and just to continue the drama referee John Rutter ordered Hillmen midfielder Theo Tshrantzis to re-take his penalty kick after Juve keeper Peter Laumets had saved the initial shot. Rutter's decision was based on Laumets moving before the kick was taken. Tshrantzis made no mistake with his second chance thus sending his side to the next round.

In what was basically a very boring first half with many unforced errors but Juve had its chances however, its finishing left a lot to be desired and it appeared its commitment was not 100 per cent.

John Kyrgios was having a fine game for Clifton Hill denying a long bomb from Adam Inglese and from the resultant corner kick he made another fine save from a Paul Della Rocca header.

Juventus, Although not playing convincingly took a deserved lead during injury time in the first half after Frank Sabatino's cross eluded the Clifton Hill defence and Inglese took full advantage by scoring with a spectacular over-head kick past the hapless keeper.

Brian MacNichol, who was one of Juve's better players on the day made a weaving run into the box and his shot flew inches wide of the target.

Another MacNichol cross saw Dino Grillo's header brilliantly saved by Hillmen keeper John Kyrgios.

Clifton Hill, with their never-say-die attitude equalised right on full-time after Tshrantzis' free-kick found its way to winger Mastos who slammed the ball

high into the net after his initial attempt was blocked for a surprise equaliser.

MacNichol was the Juve culprit in the penalty shoot-out which Clifton Hill went on to secure 5-4 in a dramatic giant-killing finale.

CLIFTON HILL: Krygios, Papatheorau, Theodoris, Nicolopoulos, Livopoulos, Brkic, Vasilou, Papageorgiou, Tshrantzis, Tauntis, Vithoulas, Mastos.

JUVENTUS: Laumets, Marley, Doyle, Della Rocca, Lane (Minichiello), MacNichol, Grillo, Ferla, Sabatino, De Amicis, Inglese.

**MORWELL FALCONS 2
S'VALE UNITED 0**

**BY
JOE COLOSIMO**
MORWELL FALCONS strolled effortlessly to round four of the Dockerty Cup after a 2-0 victory over Third Division Springvale United at North Crinigan Reserve on Saturday.

In a scoreline which flattered the visitors, Morwell should have gone ahead after only 12 minutes when Emile Bruns missed an open goal from three yards.

However, constant attacks and brilliant overlapping runs by Jorge Nilo and Steve Baldacchino who gave Gary McMullen his opportunity to score the opening goal which he took gleefully at the second attempt.

Springvale's best and only chance arrived in the 35th minute when Veieski brought the ball down to his feet, with a fine show of skill, but his shot was brilliantly saved by Dave Reynolds.

In the second half Morwell continued to press forward searching for the goals that weren't coming, finally in the 60th minute Baldacchino found Anthony Cassar, who in turn put Kevin Harrison through and a clinical finish made it 2-0.

One minute later Filiposki was sent off by referee John Fraser for a brutal tackle on Effie Cassar.

Morwell continued to press forward and wasted many opportunities that could have increased the margin by triple but in the end would be happy to progress to the next round without any major hiccups.

gress to the next round without any major hiccups.

MORWELL FALCONS: Reynolds, Baldacchino, Harris, Wright, Bruns, Pender, McMullen, A.Cassar, Harrison, Nilo, E.Cassar.

SPRINGVALE UNITED: Kirbert, Pjanic, Robertson, Filiposki, Vzelac, Pavovski, Raskovici, Stanovic, Mihajlovic, Stojilovic, Vieiski.

**CROYDON 4
BROADMEADOWS 3**

**BY
CON STAVROS**
AN EXTRAORDINARY Dockerty Cup clash at Dorset Gardens on Sunday saw Croydon record a 4-3 victory over a tenacious Broadmeadows.

A goal by Craig Cubbitt in the 20th minute promised the start of a rout for Croydon, but despite being camped in Broadmeadows half they were unable to convert any of the multitude of opportunities that came their way.

Sebastian Magnano scored a dramatic equaliser against the run of play in the 85th minute to force the somewhat dull encounter into extra time.

Two quick goals in the first period of extra time for Croydon by Spencer Field and Ian Dobson looked to have killed off the brave Second Division challengers but they had other ideas, as amazingly first Vulcan Kalayci and Usal Akyoi scored sensational goals.

Dreams of a dramatic upset disappeared with just two minutes of extra time remaining however, as Greg Brack rose high to head home a corner to safely see Croydon through to the fifth round of this famous competition.

Broadmeadows, who are looking for promotion to the first division can thank their keeper Dennis Pace and lady luck for an amazing sequence of goal-line clearances that kept them in the match, but ultimately must be rueing that well worn cliché of 'so close yet so far'.

CROYDON: McKinlay, Opasinis, Nolan, Lennon, Brack, Brown, McGeachy, McArthur (Gibson), Cubbitt (Dobson), Field, McCabe.



FRANK SABATINO

BROADMEADOWS: Pace, Podgorski, Oliveri, Guzel, Lucente, Mezzatesta, Kappadai, Cappello, Akyoi, Magnano, Geordano, Kalayci.

**WESTGATE 1
ALTONA GATE 3**

**BY
DAVID BEARD**
PREMIER LEAGUE high-flyers Altona Gate totally outclassed First Division's Westgate for a 3-1 win in Dockerty Cup Round Three action at Keilor Park on Saturday.

Altona, with the aid of what seemed a hurricane northerly peppered the goals three times more than opponent Westgate in the first-half scoring twice.

Tony Lingurovski continued from where he left off last week with yet another dribbling display into the box, rounded the keeper to easily open the scoring after a neat cross from Charlie Egan.

Altona's Klime Aslimoski was not going to be outdone by his teammate and he too went on a dribbling spree and slotted the second goal from 10 metres.

Arthur Davis, returned from injury just in time for Altona much to the appreciation of its supporters as he made a goal-line clearance from a Ljubisa Bosancic effort.

Westgate striker Damir Gnjdic worked himself free in the first

stanza but was denied by the post or the diving hands of keeper Alex Micevski.

Thirteen minutes into the second-half, Dragan Jandrievski brought down Tony 'I've been everywhere' Lingurovski which saw referee Zachariadis award a penalty which Egan duly converted.

Lingurovski was Westgate's thorn all afternoon and was pulled down in the penalty area once again but on this occasion Lingurovski took the spot-kick himself in which he managed to beat the keeper but not the post.

Gnjdic, who scored 13 goals during the regular season to help him score an interstate trial, gracefully headed home a consolation goal for Westgate in the last breath of the match.

ALTONA GATE: A.Micevski, S.Micevski, Momirovski, T.Markovski, Z.Markovski, Nicoski, Lingurovski (Donnelly), Aslimoski, Egan, Davis, Kebaskoski.

WESTGATE: McRae, Marinkovic, Boksanovic, R.Baktjarovic, L.Baktjarovic, Bosancic, Petrov, Jellic, Jankovic, Jandrievski, Gnjdic.

**NORTH GEELONG 3
WESTGATE 3**

**BY
DAVID BULLOCK**
NORTH GEELONG moved to the top of the first division table with a hard-fought 3-3 draw against arch-rival

Westgate behind closed doors at Olympic Park last Wednesday evening.

With the original fixture postponed due to political unrest the VSF took safety first precautions staging the match without any paying customers allowed onto the terraces while a total of 20 police and security officers at a reputed cost of 2000 dollars were put on standby to ensure the match would be played without any major hiccup.

North Geelong secured promotion, and only the second Geelong club in State or Premier League history to reach the highest Victorian level, received an early set back on the half-hour when Westgate goalpoacher Damir Gnjdic made space to unleash a clinical shot into the bottom left hand corner.

North hit-back to level the scores, a minute before half-time courtesy of a lethal strike from the charismatic Bogdan Bonk.

Westgate through down the gauntlet early in the second-half when Jankovic broke down the right and played an inch-perfect cross to Gnjdic who in turn easily slipped the ball past the hapless keeper to bring up his fifth goal in four days and his 13th for the season.

North's fighting qualities were rewarded on the hour when Bonk grabbed the equaliser hitting home from close range after Westgate keeper Robert McRae failed to control the ball.

The ever-alert Bonk grabbed his hat-trick and North the lead after 73 minutes when he pounced on a loose ball inside the area to squeeze it past the despairing McRae.

The match took another twist of fate with five minutes remaining when a swerving corner from substitute Dragan Jandrievski was powerfully headed home by Milorad Gelic to grab Westgate a deserving share of the points.

NORTH GEELONG: Di Giocchino, Cosic, Palmacciorotti, D.Cervinski, Horvat, Trogric, Culina, Georgieski, A.Cervinski, Bonk (Smoljko), Dimovski.

WESTGATE: McRae,

Stojcevski, Roksandic, R.Bajaktarovic, L.Bajaktarovic, Bosancic (Gandrievski), Petrov, Jellic, Jankovic, Gelic, Gnjdic.

**KEILOR 1
PORT MELB 1
(Port Melb 5-4
on pens)**

BY TONY ABATE
AFTER A SEASON which the Port Melbourne faithful would rather forget, the Greek-backed outfit showed some definite character, to triumph against a spirited Keilor Austria side 5-4 (1-1) via a penalty shoot-out.

Keilor totally dominated the first half and in the final analysis would have been disappointed with forwards like Percan, Sutherland, Cumming, Bogoevski, who all missed golden opportunities to score.

Three minutes after the re-start, Pocock transcended Keilor's domination onto the scoreboard by converting a penalty which had been earned by Patsoukas had been obstructed within the realms of the six-yard box.

Despite popular belief around the ground pertaining to a Port Melbourne capitulation, Keilor's jubilation was short-lived, as only minutes later Willie Raynes broke free on the left to manufacture an exquisite cross which Kourelis had no trouble hitting home.

A near miss by Doherty, and referee John Santa-Isabel's decision to send-off Price and the mirage of spiteful activity underlined both side's determination to defend at all costs, as the game moved ominously to a penalty shoot-out.

After nine flawless penalty conversions, the veteran Tommy Cumming could only lower his head as the Port Melbourne keeper Akritiois made a breath-taking save to end Keilor's cup ambitions.

KEILOR: Jacob, Portelli, Raniolu, Price, Pocock, Riley, Percan, Sutherland, Cumming, Pace, Bogoevski.

PORT MELBOURNE: Akritiois, Drikos, Patsoukis, Tasiominos, Rizopoulos, Doherty, Kourelis, Rusmar, Serafinos, Pappas, Raynes

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**PASCOE VALE
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Bulleen have had a great year



Northcote players celebrate.

BY CON STAVROS

ALL credit to the valiant Bulleen outfit who were desperately unlikely not to pip rivals Juventus at the post for the 1991 Victorian Premier League title.

Andy Bozikas, coach of the runners-up must be rueing the absence of a top five playoff to decide the championship this year in Victoria.

His Bulleen finished level with Juventus on the table at the completion of the twenty-six round season, but missed out on goal difference.

Juventus's goal difference was plus 36 whilst Bulleen managed plus 26.

It was disappointing to get that close and then lose on goal difference. Bozikas said after learning the final results.

Many European leagues have playoffs to decide a championship when teams are level on points, he pointed out.

"One game at our ground and one game at their (Juventus's) ground would have been a great climax to the season," he said.

Whilst Bozikas's idea, as used in the Italian league, would have created a great spectacle, it appears that the traditional final five system will operate as from next season in the Premier League.

In the final analysis however, Bulleen must look at their two defeats at the hands of Juventus during the season as the critical failure. Juve won those two games by a combined margin of five goals, making a net difference of ten to the final goal difference tally between the two sides.

Points aside, it was by a ten goal margin that Juventus took the title from Bulleen.

Next season, Bulleen

look like retaining all their regular players, whilst coach Bozikas may look to add some new striking talent as well as evaluate other key positions.

Exciting prospects Anthony Grbac and Stan Thodis both will have the chance to once again impress their growing legion of fans.

Midfield general Fabio Incantalupo looks the key to success for Bulleen if he can overcome the tragic bad luck of the past month.

Incantalupo, one of the most gifted players ever to grace Australian soccer, has had a return to the NSL put on hold due to a broken leg and was forced to watch helplessly as his team just failed to snatch the title.

If that wasn't bad enough for fabulous Fab, he also watched as Juventus midfielder Brian MacNicol overtook him in the final round to take the ABSW Most Exciting Player Award.

Player of year most exciting

BY CON STAVROS

THE inaugural ABSW Most Exciting Player of the Year Award has proved a resounding success in the Victorian Premier League competition of 1991.

Proudly sponsored by Pascoe Vale Sports-Scene of 413-415 Bell Street/Pascoe Vale, this year's winner is Brian MacNicol of champion club Brunswick Juventus.

MacNicol won the accolade as the league's most exciting player in a breathtaking finish after polling two votes in the final game of the season.

The flashy midfielder catapulted past early favourite Fabio Incantalupo of runners-up Bulleen, Alex Gymnopoulos of relegated Northcote City and Doug Hodgson of similarly doomed Doveton.

Voting in the award was allocated on a unique system of player ratings formulated to take into account the excitement value of an individual's contribution to a game.

One player from either team playing was allocated from one to three votes by the ABSW reporter cover-



Fausto Di Amicis wins a heading duel.

ing the fixture. Three votes pertained to a sensational performance, two votes to a match-winner effort and one vote to a eye-catching display.

MacNicol in finishing with fourteen votes collected five two and four one votes throughout the season.

His performance and equally that of Incantalupo are especially meritorious given that Juventus and Bulleen contain many exciting players capable of polling votes.

The award created tremendous interest amongst supporters and players alike throughout the season, especially once the notion of rewarding the entertainers of the league took hold.

Not surprisingly, all of the leading vote-catchers have been linked to National League clubs over the past week.

MacNicol looks likely to transfer to Heidelberg after considering offers from both Wollongong and his native Brisbane.

"I'm settled and happy in Melbourne now," he told ABSW. "Naturally I'd love to play National League soccer and if I can do that in Melbourne that will be great," he added.

Incantalupo who had been Heidelberg coach Gary Cole's number one recruiting target, looks likely to once again front for Bulleen next season, after tragically breaking his leg

with just three rounds of the competition remaining.

Doug Hodgson, the forward turned defender for Doveton, gained plenty of practice in that role for his team that finished the twenty-six round season with just one win under its belt.

His impressive form, however earned him votes in a record thirteen rounds and he too caught the eye of Heidelberg who continuing their dragnet for talent are also trialling Alex Gymnopoulos.

Check the team list below to see how your favourite player finished in the voting.

OAKLEIGH: 6 - Leonardos, Halford, Goutzoulis. 4 - Haidaris. 3 - Lujic. 2 - Zemunik, Theodoropoulos. 1 - Androu, Vagias, Gourlias. Total - 36
ALBION: 8 - White, Macleod. 5 - Raynes. 4 - Patterson, James. 3 - Grimaud, Douglas. 2 - Carter. 1 - Russell, Freund, Pasoski. Total - 40
GREEN GULLY: 10 - Smart. 9 - Becvinovski. 3 - Carter, Hodgben, Spiteri. 2 - Hunter, Kotzamichalis, Campelj, Chetcuti. 1 - Kuzman. Total - 37
ST. ALBANS: 9 - Pondeljak. 5 - Skenderovic. 4 - Colina, Bacak, Johnson. 3 - Silic. 2 - Kelic, Grgic, Basara, Biskic. 1 - Marth, Ketsakides, Radic. Total - 40
FAWKNER: 11 - Lucchesi. 5 - Vlatkovic. 4 - Wilson, Tombolato. 3 - Emmanuelle, Retre. 2 - Anastasiadis, Stubbins, Han-

na. 1 - Schipano. Total - 37
ALTONA GATE: 7 - Lingurovski. 6 - Nicoski. 5 - Micevski, J. Markovski. 4 - McMullan, Todorovski. 3 - T. Markovski, Torteovski. 2 - Aslimoski, Davis, Donnelly. 1 - Mamirovski. Total - 44
THOMASTOWN: 9 - Cocker. 5 - Tsangas. 4 - Cristaldo. 3 - Bekiaris, Maclaren, Giaccehrini. 2 - Karic, Di Martino, Brian. 1 - Mihos, McAleer. Total - 35
JUVENTUS: 14 - MacNicol. 5 - Lane. 4 - De Amicis. 3 - Minichiello, Della Rocca. 2 - Doyle, Smith, Ferla. 1 - Grillo, Sabatino, Marley, Corvan. Total - 39
CROYDON: 7 - McArthur. 6 - McGeachy. 5 - Dobson. 4 - Opasinis. 3 - McKinley. 2 - Lennon, Klepac, Humble. 1 - Brack, Brimmer, McCabe. Total - 34
DOVETON: 13 - Hodgson. 4 - Cattermole. 3 - Luxford. 2 - Stewart, Zealley. 1 - Rodriguez, Healy, McGuinness, Bot, Blesington. Total - 29
BULLEEN: 13 - Incantalupo. 7 - Mori, Thodis. 5 - Grbac. 2 - Ruccia, Pappas. 1 - Raponi, Marsan, Krajacic. Total - 39
NORTHCOTE: 13 - Gymnopoulos. 6 - Kouremi-nious. 5 - J. Constantinou. 4 - Panagopoulos, Turudia. 3 - Anezakis, N. Constantinou. 1 - Andriotis, Metaxas. Total - 40
MOOROOLBARK: 7 - McCallan. 5 - Burton. 4 - McIntosh. 3 - Jobling, Posar. 2 - Nyholt, Campbell, Heys. 1 - Hobson, Carter, Brogan, Byrne, Tsapatolis. Total - 33
MORWELL: 11 - A. Cassar. 6 - Pender, Upton, Harris. 2 - E. Cassar, Neild, McMullen, Daley. 1 - Roodhouse, O'Dell, Wright, May. Total - 41

THIS WEEK

DIV. ONE

Sat, 14th September Round 30
Bell Park v Western Suburbs, Box Hill v Westgate, Bye v Springvale City, Caulfield City v Werribee, Essendon City v Port Melbourne, Frankston Pines v Mordialloc, Knox City v Ringwood City, North Geelong v Melbourne City.

DIV. TWO

Sat, 14th September Round 30
Altona City v Sandringham City, Broadmeadows City v Brighton, Chelsea v Waverley City, Clifton Hill v Sunbury United, Dandenong v Bentleigh Greens, Doncaster Rovers v Richmond, Keilor v Nunawading City, Suns Heights Polonia v Geelong.

★ Please note that the above rounds are the final ones for State League Divisions One and Two. Division's 3, 4 and 5 have already finished.

There are no Provisional League matches on the above weekend. The final round of matches for Provisional League Divisions 1-5 will be the weekend of September 21/22.





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GREG BLAKE PULLS NO PUNCHES

Vics will tread with caution



JUVENTUS SKIPPER STEVE MARLEY

BERGERS MAKE THEIR FIRST POSITIVE MOVE

HEIDELBERG has made its first significant moves on the transfer market by snapping up Victorian Premier League stars Sash Becvinovski and Doug Hodgson.

But Angie Goutzioulis' career at Olympic Village is on the line after a dispute over contract negotiations.

Goutzioulis, who put in a sensational loan spell with Premier League Oakleigh this winter, was meeting with Heidelberg officials last week in a desperate bid to keep his ties with the Melbourne club.

Heidelberg spokesman Nick Anastasiadis told ABSW that negotiations have reached crisis point.

If the two parties cannot strike an agreement Goutzioulis will be transfer listed for \$45,000, Anastasiadis said last week.

"Let's just say he has been uncooperative in his dealings with the club so far", Anastasiadis told ABSW.

Heidelberg is thrilled at the signings of Becvinovski and Hodgson.

Becvinovski, a proven goalscorer and former Southern Division youth player of the year, comes from Green Gully on a transfer maximum of \$3,200.

Hodgson, the 22-year-old Vinnie Jones look-alike, is rated as one of the hottest prospects in Victoria at this time and he joins the Bergers on a free transfer from ailing Doveton.

The two players did battle in a round 25 Premier League game, with Becvinovski asking the imposing Hodgson to "take it easy" on him for the day.

"I told him we'd be team mates this summer, so he'd better take it easy on me", laughed Becvinovski.

"I'm glad he'll be on my team next time we meet".

Becvinovski, the equal Premier League top goalscorer going into last weekend's final round, is confident he can atone for the disappointment of an ill-fated and short stay at Wollongong Macedonia last year.

"It's good to be back and playing in the NSL", he said.

"I really want to show that I can play soccer and prove I'm not just a nomad going from club to club.

Cole was injured in a serious car accident three weeks ago.

Hodgson has impressed with a series of brilliant displays for winless Doveton this season, polling in more games than any other player in the ABSW Most Exciting Player Award.

Heidelberg is expecting coach Gary Cole to be back and taking charge of training within one week.

Cole was injured in a serious car accident three weeks ago.

Cole was injured in a serious car accident three weeks ago.

Cole was injured in a serious car accident three weeks ago.

THE crown jewel in Victorian Soccer Federation reform plans, the concept of replacing its 14-person board of management with a five-person committee, is being greeted with caution.

The commission concept, initiated by current VSF chairman Vito Cilauro, was discussed at board level last week.

A 75 percent vote in favour by VSF member clubs at a special general meeting on 30 September is required to implement what is considered a most dramatic reform.

Although most concede that the current 14 member board is unwieldy and, according to Cilauro, often unproductive, the suggestion is that too much power will fall into the hands of too few should the commission come to power.

One current board member is suspicious of the change, citing the example of the ASF Commission, which, he

says, has set a poor precedent.

"With all that power they have been too secretive", he told ABSW.

"The best example of that was their refusal to reveal the votes accorded to all the clubs in the running for an NSL place this season.

"You cannot help but be a little suspicious of such a plan".

But much of the apprehension surrounding the plan for a commission to run the affairs of Victorian soccer is probably misplaced.

Certainly the VSF has no qualms about discussing the idea and is preparing to brief all of its member clubs on the plans at a series of meetings during September.

It must be said that this correspondent fully supports what is basically an administrative extension of the club and league rationalisation, which commenced last year, the first year of a five-year plan.

In adopting higher standards for both individual clubs and the leagues in which they play, it seems only logical to streamline the body

which administers them.

Only the now (thankfully) dwindling 'old guard' remain unconvinced of the new face of Victorian soccer.

Their apprehension is well-founded in as much as there will be no place for individuals only concerned with retaining a flimsy power

base if the scheme to institute a commission is successful.

Competent administrators will find their places on specialist committees.

The proposed five-person commission will comprise the VSF Chairman, Premier League Chairman, State League Chairman, a Victorian NSL club delegate and a delegate representing all affiliated leagues and organisations.

There is the option of recruiting a sixth commissioner — a totally independent member appointed from outside the game.

Under the plan each commissioner would be delegated a portfolio, each leading separate specialist committees in the areas of finance, promotion, marketing, facilities and state squads.

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SATURDAY
MATCH RESULTS
SERVICE

- STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 4
- PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISIONS 1 TO 3

(Updated each Saturday evening by 6.30pm)

(Public Holidays: 0055 38878)

VICTORIAN JUNIOR TABLES

UNDER 11

CEN/SOUTH A

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
EAST BENTLEIGH	16	14	2	0	104	5 30
CLAYTON	16	14	1	1	73	10 29
BRIGHTON	16	11	2	3	72	14 24
ALBERT PARK MAC	15	7	3	5	33	26 17
SANDRINGHAM B	8	6	1	1	30	6 13
SANDRINGHAM	15	6	1	8	42	34 13
ELWOOD	16	6	1	9	20	39 13
KW EAGLES	15	4	2	9	14	42 10
BENTLEIGH GREEN	16	2	3	11	6	64 7
EAST RICHMOND	17	3	1	13	10	110 7
MORDIALLOC	16	0	3	13	8	60 3
BYE 300	0	0	0	0	0	0 0

NORTHERN

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
NTH GLE ST MARK	19	14	3	2	92	10 31
FAWKNER	18	12	4	2	52	12 28
B.U. JUVENUS	17	12	2	3	65	13 26
MEADOW PARK	19	11	3	5	44	33 25
THOMASTOWN	17	10	1	6	55	28 21
NTH RESERVOIR	18	6	5	5	20	15 21
LALOR UNITED	18	6	4	6	48	29 20
NORTHCOE CITY	18	5	4	9	45	48 14
PRESTON	18	5	1	12	37	50 11
H/BERG UTO A	17	4	1	12	74	40 9
ESSENDON CITY	18	3	2	13	25	46 8
KEON PARK	17	0	0	17	5	208 0

CEN/SOUTH B

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
F/STON UTO	15	11	1	3	51	14 23
BAXTER	14	10	1	2	55	10 22
LANGWARRIN	12	10	1	1	45	5 21
BEAUMARIS	14	7	2	5	28	26 16
MORNINGTON	13	5	4	4	31	17 14
PENINSULA	14	6	1	7	33	36 13
HASTINGS	14	3	1	10	18	53 7
F/TON PINES	14	3	0	11	12	53 6
CARRUM UTO	14	1	0	13	8	67 2

NTH/WEST A

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
KEILOR A	15	13	2	0	79	6 28
SUNBURY UTO	16	12	1	3	55	15 25
ST ALBANS	15	9	4	2	52	14 22
REGENT	15	6	5	2	53	11 21
ALTONA EAST	14	4	5	5	10	17 13
WESTVALE	16	5	3	8	27	70 13
WESTERN SUBS	15	4	4	7	15	26 12
GREEN GULLY B	15	4	3	8	27	35 11
SUNSHINE PARK	15	2	1	12	7	43 5
300	3	0	2	1	2	12 2
GLENROY	15	0	2	13	4	82 2

EASTERN A

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
SPRINGVALE CITY	16	16	0	0	95	6 32
SEAFOUR UNITED	17	15	0	2	67	15 30
WAVERTLEY UTO A	19	13	0	6	76	32 26
DONCASTER ROV	17	12	1	4	58	20 25
NUNAWADING CITY	17	8	2	7	32	28 18
BERWICK CITY	17	8	1	8	49	32 17
LYNDALE UNITED	19	8	1	10	37	48 15
MONBULK	19	7	1	11	27	77 15
KNOX CITY	17	6	0	11	28	49 12
RINGWOOD CITY	17	4	4	9	19	50 12
WAVERTLEY CITY	18	2	1	5	7	66 5
CLARINDA	17	0	1	16	4	76 1

NTH/WEST B

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
LALOR	14	12	2	0	85	2 26
PASCOE VALE	14	9	3	2	48	16 21
MELTON B	14	8	1	5	32	20 17
ROSANNA	15	8	0	7	27	26 16
PRESTON B	13	7	1	5	34	29 15
KEILOR B	14	6	1	7	44	26 13
WERRIBEE	12	3	2	7	25	19 8
VARRAVILLE	11	0	2	9	1	42 2
H/BERG UTO B	13	1	0	12	3	119 2
RYE 300	0	0	0	0	0	0 0

EASTERN B

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
SHERBROOKE RANG	17	12	4	1	67	20 26
STH S/VALE A	15	12	2	1	49	9 24
CROYDON CITY A	15	11	1	3	56	20 23
KARINGAL	17	7	4	6	32	30 16
KNOX PARK	16	7	3	6	45	23 17
ELTHAM	15	7	3	5	37	32 17
SPRINGVALE UTO	14	4	3	7	21	77 11
HANPTON PARK	16	2	4	10	15	37 8
BULLEEN	15	1	0	14	6	61 2
GLEW WAVERTLEY	12	0	1	11	3	78 1

WESTERN

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
MELB CROATIA	14	14	0	0	96	6 28
GREEN GULLY A	17	11	0	6	61	23 22
SUNSHINE HTS	15	10	1	4	59	23 21
MELTON A	16	9	3	4	49	19 21
SUNSHINE G.X	16	9	2	5	49	20 20
ALTONA GATE	16	9	2	5	44	24 20
MELB CITY	15	6	2	9	24	34 12
ALTONA CITY	15	4	1	10	25	38 9
ALBION	16	1	0	15	15	108 2
HARIBYRNONG UNT	15	1	0	14	5	119 2

EASTERN C

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
BRANDON PARK	15	14	1	0	102	9 29
CRANBOURNE	15	10	4	1	66	13 24
DINGLEY	13	9	3	1	84	14 21
DOVETON	14	7	3	4	45	19 17
CROYDON CITY B	14	5	2	7	42	37 12
OAKLEIGH SUBURB	14	6	0	8	38	53 12
MALVERN CITY	13	4	6	3	26	40 11
OAKLEIGH	13	2	5	6	13	73 9
STH S/VALE B	15	1	2	12	3	123 4
HANPTON	14	0	1	13	1	89 1



UNDER 12

CEN/SOUTH

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
PENINSULA	19	14	4	1	69	25 32
BRIGHTON	19	14	1	4	67	20 29
CRANBOURNE	19	13	3	3	61	20 29
F/STON UTO	19	13	2	4	54	23 28
STH S/VALE	19	12	2	5	58	18 26
SANDRINGHAM	19	12	1	6	57	39 25
OAKLEIGH SUBS	19	7	4	8	37	43 18
DOVETON	19	4	4	11	27	49 12
LANGWARRIN	18	4	2	12	25	78 10
BAXTER	18	3	3	12	27	59 9
EAST BENTLEIGH	19	2	2	15	16	45 6
BENTLEIGH GREEN	19	1	0	18	8	87 2

EASTERN B

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
HANPTON PARK	19	17	1	1	89	13 35
ELTHAM	18	13	3	2	83	24 29
ALBERT PARK	16	10	2	4	42	26 22
MONBULK	18	9	3	6	55	46 21
H/BERG UTO B	16	8	3	5	38	20 19
RINGWOOD CITY	16	7	4	5	37	27 18
STH WERRIBEE	19	6	3	10	32	38 15
CLAYTON	19	6	3	10	27	59 15
SHERBROOKE RANGS	19	7	0	12	40	67 14
BEAUMARIS	18	4	5	9	25	32 13
MELB CITY	17	4	4	9	22	47 12
MOOROOLBARK B	19	0	1	18	9	105 1

EASTERN A

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
MITCHAM UTO	19	12	5	2	52	10 29
CAULFIELD CITY	19	11	4	4	46	16 26
GLEW WAVERTLEY	18	10	6	2	43	16 26
BEAUMARIS	19	11	4	4	32	12 26
KNOX CITY EAGLES	17	7	6	4	28	15 20
MOOROOLBARK A	19	8	4	7	36	31 20
DONCASTER ROV	18	6	7	5	22	21 19
BULLEEN	19	8	2	9	32	27 18
S/VALE CITY	18	6	1	9	33	25 17
EAST RICHMOND	19	4	5	10	20	40 13
SEAFOUR	17	2	0	15	8	63 4
BERWICK CITY	18	1	0	17	9	85 2

NTH/WEST

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
SUNSHINE PARK	17	15	0	2	82	7 30
BELL PARK	17	13	3	1	72	12 29
E/BRUNS/IVANHOE	17	11	1	5	48	23 23
FAWKNER	15	10	2	3	42	12 22
WESTVALE	18	9	3	6	53	28 21
MEADOW PARK	15	7	2	6	39	32 16
WESTGATE	15	6	1	8	32	31 13
WERRIBEE	15	3	2	10	26	49 8
EAST GEELONG	15	3	0	12	14	63 6
HOPPERS YING	17	2	1	14	12	73 5
THOMASTOWN B	17	1	1	15	6	100 3

NORTHERN

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
LALOR UTO	17	17	0	0	69	12 34
B.U. JUVENUS	17	9	4	4	23	15 22
NORTHCOE CITY	16	9	2	5	21	13 20
NTH/GLEN/STMARK	17	7	4	6	26	22 18
KEON PARK	15	8	1	6	22	17 17
THOMASTOWN A	16	6	4	6	15	12 16
PRESTON	16	6	3	7	19	26 15
FITZROY EAGLES	16	4	4	8	27	25 12
H/BERG UTO A	17	3	4	10	18	34 10
NTH RESERVOIR	17	4	2	11	20	49 10
REGENT	15	2	1	12	10	50 5

WESTERN

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
ALTONA CITY	19	12	5	2	47	13 29
MELB CROATIA	18	13	3	2	48	21 29
SUNSHINE HTS	18	11	5	2	43	15 27
ST ALBANS	18	10	5	3	39	14 25
ALTONA GATE	19	10	5	4	40	16 25
SUNSHINE G.X	19	10	3	6	50	28 23
ALBION	19	8	2	9	37	36 18
NTH GEELONG	19	8	2	9	29	40 18
GREEN GULLY	19	3	5	11	13	39 11
MELTON	19	3	2	14	13	62 8
SYDENHAM PARK	17	2	7	13	10	41 6
BROADMEADOWS	18	1	1	16	6	50 3

NTH/WEST B

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
GREEN GULLY	16	11	3	2	39	17 25
BROADMEADOWS	15	11	2	2	41	15 24
NORTHCOE CITY	16	10	4	2	39	20 24
CLIFTON HILL	15	8	3	4	29	21 19
SYDENHAM PARK	15	6	4	5	21	18 16
E/BRUNS/IVANHOE	17	6	1	10	24	32 13
ALTONA CITY	17	4	4	9	20	27 12
KEON PARK	14	4	2	8	22	34 10
N/BERG/STMARKS	16	2	4	10	14	39 8
WEST SUBURBS	15	2	2	11	12	36 6

SUPER/LEAGUE

P	W	D	L	F	A	PT</
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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



VERSATILE Joe Mullen has agreed terms with Adelaide City and is keen to get back playing.

Key defender Paul Shillabeer, as with Mullen, also is expected to re-sign.

"I am quite happy and am looking forward to the season, Mullen said.

Both affable City men will be looking for better seasons than last when they were hit by injuries.

TALL, athletic, talented — Darien Bauer has the attributes to make it to the top in goalkeeping.

And the 21-year-old, from Modbury, is working hard to do just that. The NSL is an obvious early goal but trials in Europe are a longer term aim. Bauer is putting in the hours to develop and hone skills.

Apart from training with Modbury, the former Australian High Schools custodian works out regularly with former goalkeeping great and now respected specialist coach Charlie Horvath.

"I was very happy with my year with Modbury though it has been a long season. We have been on the go since last November," Bauer said.

"It has been a real learning experience under John (Nyskohus) in the First Division. Players are so much more accurate and quicker. My positional play off the ball was improved and I'm been working on my concentration.

"We lost only 22 goals in the League. That is reasonable but we could have done better. I reckon we have among the top three defences in the League. We just haven't been getting the goals. We've had something like 10 draws. If we had won some more we could have been right up there."

Bauer picked Salisbury's Jeff Tyson and Bep De Vries, of Beograd, as two Foundation SA League strikers who need special watching.

"Tyson has a presence," Bauer said. "Every time he gets the ball you know he is going to do something. And he has some shot in his left foot! Bep De Vries is a classy striker. I had trouble with him in the Second Division when he was at Blackwood and he broke a recent drought against me



Joe Mullen in a heading duel.

at Modbury."

Bauer played for 11 years with Para Hills colts before joining Enfield in the Second Division. He then went to Golden Grove. The former Fremont High School student took his big break at 17.

"Fremont specialised more in music, there was not a lot of sport played," Bauer said. "But the State High School squad needed a goalkeeper and I went out for just one trial. I was picked in the SA team and we played well in the nationals in Darwin and I made the national team. I went on tour to the US, England, Ireland and Wales with such players as Tony Vidmar, Brad Maloney and David Seal. It was a great experience.

CAMPBELLTOWN City wants to build a new grandstand at its Newton Sportsfield ground.

The club will seek permission of its members to go ahead with the plan.

The Red Devils also hope to find cash to buy three experienced players for next season.

They will be led by a new coach.

Experienced Jimmy Campbell has left the club by mutual agreement.

NEW Coach Martyn Crook will start State team preparations for the glamour Fairmont Homes challenge series

against West Adelaide and Adelaide City after Wednesday's PGH Federation Cup final.

But West, one of his rivals in the \$30,000 triangular tournament at Hindmarsh in November, is causing him minor headaches.

"We cannot really pick our squad until we know which of the Foundation League players West wants for its NSL squad," Crook said.

"Obviously, any players they are likely to want probably would have been required by the State team so that will have bearing on how we approach things.

"But I hope to sit down after the Federation Cup final and think over the squad. We shall take things from there."

THE Zebras are bounding into SA.

The Zebras — Adelaide City's new official supporters club — are to meet at 7.30pm on Monday, September 23 in the clubrooms at Hindmarsh Stadium.

City vice-president Fred Lenzi, marketing chief David Jenkins and client manager of Ad City Marketing, Garie Dooley will meet fans to discuss their exciting plans.

City, meanwhile, meets Marconi on September 22 in a pre-season trial at Norwood Oval.

AFC Butterfield is the runaway winner of Division Eight amateurs.

The club has scored 119 League goals this season with former Federation star Larry Sullivan on Sunday completing his 50 in a 16-2 thrashing of Murray Bridge City. Renamed TA/Airport, the club hopes to make its mark again next season.

BLACKWOOD players on Thursday turned the tables on the club administration.

As a thank you to the effort and endeavour of the new club people, players and coaches are to put on a pizza and chicken evening.

WEST Adelaide has stepped up the hard work for its re-entry to the National Soccer League.

Coach Nick Pantsaras, in varying his pre-season training routine, had his players sweating it out in the Olympians gym.

Striker Peter Rankin was missing as he is having minor surgery on a foot ailment. Defender Kurt Reynolds is having a break in Tasmania and import Raymond Blair has been hit by the 'flu bug.

"But it is good to get down to the work," Pantsaras said. "The boys all seem in good spirits and are keen to get on with the job ahead."

SA WANTS to lift the profile of its State team with the appointment of a marketing manager.

But officials have pointed out no proposal has been mooted at board level to have a composite State team on stand-by to replace West Adelaide or Adelaide City should either fail in the National Soccer League.

"We want to raise the profile of the State team and it gives players in the Foundation SA

League an opportunity to play at a higher level," SA Soccer Federation chief executive Tony Farrugia said. "But there never has been any proposal that it could be ready to step up for the NSL."

WEST Adelaide coach Nick Pantsaras almost feels he has to tie down Joey striker Paul Agostino to keep him out of action.

Agostino, who was named in the FIFA Under-17 world championship all-star team after the titles in Italy, played with Hellas on the Saturday in its 0-1 extra-time PGH Federation Cup loss to Salisbury.

He then fronted next day for training with the club's NSL squad.

"He is unbelievable," Pantsaras said. "He was out there again yesterday. His attitude towards training and playing is excellent for a player of his age.

"He deserves all he gets for the work he puts in. I'll have to look at resting him for a couple of days this week to make sure he doesn't burn himself out."

Pantsaras is happy to have his local NSL squad in action. They will have four sessions this week.

"It is good to get started with the job ahead," Pantsaras said.

"We have received permission for Eddie Briscoe to train with the squad and he was the only player from another club out with us at

the weekend. Others could come out once their Cup commitments are over.

"We want to vary our approach and hope to get in two or three trial games against the right kind of opposition as preparation."

West will play Heidelberg in SA on September 22 at a venue to be decided.

BOOM Northern Areas club Port Pirie Virtus will celebrate its 40th anniversary over the weekend of November 1-3.

Highlight will be the gala reunion dinner at the Northern Festival Centre, Port Pirie. Former Virtus players and members should make this a date for their diary.

Virtus this season sealed its third NASA title in six years and went through the league program unbeaten. Other highlights were the generous sponsorship of Gordon Pickard's Fairmont Homes and guest appearances by Adelaide City's Joe Mullen.

SA EXPORT Aurelio Vidmar could be back in December.

The Belgian League has a break around Christmas and the former Adelaide City Socceroo might chose to come back for a break.

His side KV Kortrijk last week drew 1-1 with lowly Lierse. Kortrijk, after three games, sat ninth on the 18-team table.



Former Adelaide City star Aurelio Vidmar could be back in South Australia at Christmas.

South Australia



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United strive to be super fit

GREG RUSSELL LOOKS AT THE SUNSHINE STATE

Brisbane United are looking to use fitness to overcome any lack of experience they may have in their inaugural season in the national league.

They young side, which comprises mostly players from Queensland's XXXX League competition, are being put through a gruelling pre-season by United physio Michael Dalglish.

The program is tougher for many of the United players as they are coming to the end of a XXXX League campaign which began in February. But United coach Miron Bleiberg is adamant the fitness level of Queensland's premier competition is far below that required for the NSL.

Dalglish, who has travelled with the Soceroos and was the Australian team physio at the Auckland Commonwealth Games, put the United squad through a rigorous three days of fitness tests last week.

The tests included a demanding circuit at the Queensland University's sports laboratory in which the strength and fitness of the players were measured on state of the art equipment.

Field workouts and soccer specific exercises at Annerley Soccer Club complemented the University testing.

"The tests have been an eye-opener for some of the players," Dalglish said. "But once we process all the results, the coach and the players will know exactly where they stand fitness-wise."

"Players will then be graded into 'unfit' and 'quite fit' categories and programs to accommodate each player's requirements."

"We will then be able to monitor their progress over the coming weeks and have a benchmark fitness for each player to obtain should they become injured at any time during the season."

Brisbane United have begun training in earnest although those players from clubs still involved in the XXXX League finals are permitted to attend just one session a week until their local commitments are fulfilled.

Brisbane United played its first official pre-season trial at Perry Park on the weekend, diving into the deep end from the start with a clash against Marconi.

The club then hopes to host Parramatta Melita on Sunday, although the match is still under negotiation.

Brisbane United kick-off their NSL season with a home tie against fellow 1991-92 season newcomers West Adelaide on Sunday, October 6.

The club will launch its colours (almost certain to be white, blue and gold) and unveil their logo at a special media launch on Monday, September 30. It is understood the new strip, most probably sponsored by Patrick, is 'close' to that worn by Leeds United.

On the field, United have had a setback with the luckless David Hunter breaking a bone in his foot.

Hunter had only resumed playing for Lions after a six month suspension resulting from an alleged headbutt in last year's finals series.

He had played only three games this season, but to his credit, was at full fitness after not missing a training session all year. Amazingly Hunter broke the bone early in the second half in the XXXX League final round match against North Star but played on until 20 minutes from fulltime.

He left the field with a 'sore leg' which blew up like a balloon overnight. X-rays the next day revealed the break and the sad verdict that Hunter will be sidelined for six weeks.

United will go in against Marconi also without import sweeper Steve Bullock although the club is hopeful Auckland captain Carl Jorgensen will arrive in time. Former New Zealand international Danny Halligan appears unlikely to be in Brisbane until the end of the month.

United's other signings, including Alan Hunter and Stuart Stevenson, are certain to play in the trial.

Bleiberg has begun a late search for strikers and has invited former Lions NSL striker Jim

McDonagh, who has been one of the leading marksmen in the XXXX League with North Star for the past four years, and bustling Easts targetman Geoff Maltby to United training.

Bleiberg has already appealed to Brisbane fans not to expect too much from their side, particularly as United's pre-season has been disrupted by the involvement of players in the local finals play-offs.

"I will not have my squad together and concentrating solely on the NSL until the week before the first fixture," Bleiberg said.

"Our first month will be spent getting to know each other. We are a new club and are starting a long way behind teams like West Adelaide who have been together for years."

Brisbane United fare favourably in the promotion and relegation from the XXXX League. Nerang and Acacia Ridge, which lost their status in the top division, went down and were replaced by Grange Thistle and Lutwyche.

The Second Division champions and runners-up and signatories to the United agreement, pledging financial and player support. As XXXX League clubs their contribution to the United coffers will be more substantial than has been in Division Two.

United officials are still hopeful of clinching a sponsor but like most clubs, any negotiations hinge on television coverage. The club also has had favorable talks with sports minister Bob Gibbs and is hopeful of getting some form of government funding.



Big Alan Hunter in action.

Davis performs yet another miracle with Taringa

TARINGA coach Glenn Davis, who performed yet another miracle to steer the battling western suburbs club away from relegation, blasted the Queensland Soccer Federation after his team won a sudden death final round encounter with Acacia Ridge.

The Ridge joined Nerang in the drop to Division Two with their places being taken by former XXXX League giants Grange Thistle, bouncing back to the top league at their first attempt, and Lutwyche United who have completed a fairytale climb from the lower divisions.

Davis, who was enlisted

in the final weeks of the season as Taringa slumped from being an outside final chance to stare relegation in the face, claimed the QSF was crucifying its premier competition.

He believes a two-up, two-down system in a 10-team competition such as the XXXX League puts undue pressure on middle of the table sides.

"It's ruining the standard of soccer played in the premier division," Davis said. "Teams in sixth, seventh and eighth places have chances to make the top five (play-off spots), but can't play entertaining football for fear of relegation."

Davis pointed out that in recent years several teams which have come

up have returned to the Second Division after their first season in the tip flight. That occurred this year with Nerang and in the past with Croatia, Acacia Ridge and Wynnum.

"It should be one-up," Davis said.

In the end Taringa did it comfortably with a 3-1 win over Acacia Ridge, but both clubs were left with serious soul-searching to be done.

The Ridge, after three years in the top league, must now take steps to rebuild and become a force again. They should be very wary of what happened to former XXXX League side Redlands who are now mid-table in Division Three.

The club, probably under the guidance of Dave

Richardson who took over from Eric Thompson mid-season are likely to embark on a new youth policy.

Richardson already unearthed a potential star of the future in tossing young keeper Brett Wass into the first team in the final rounds. Wass stamped himself as one of the best performed keepers in the league in the final weeks of the season.

While Richardson conceded some of his youngsters 'froze' in the final sudden death round, he praised them from clawing the club from a seemingly hopeless position to one where they could have survived.

In the end it appeared

many associated with the Ridge were privately hoping for relegation to allow the club to regain the solid support on which it built its reputation in past seasons.

While the survival celebrations at Speare Park were a test of survival themselves, Taringa cannot afford to waste a moment during the off-season.

Unless the club strengthens its ranks, it almost certainly will find itself in the same battling position next year.

Club president Frank Speare conceded work had to be done, but pointed out that Taringa were far from being passengers in the competition as suggested by some commentators.

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY



Nii the man who won the cup

Nii Lamptey, who usually shines in attack, saved an injury-time shot on the line with his knees to help Ghana beat Spain 1-0 in the final of the world under-17 soccer championship last week.

Ghana, who dominated most of the match, had a string of near-misses before they breached the Spanish defence in the 75th minute when Duah headed home from a corner.

Hundreds of Ghanaian fans among the crowd of 5,000 at the Fiorentina stadium danced in delight.

Spain, for whom defender Chocarro had headed against the bar several minutes earlier in a counter-attack, threw everything at Ghana in the dying minutes in a bid to save the game.

They came closest one minute into injury time when Pardo shot from the edge of the penalty area and Lamptey, back on his own goal line, blocked the ball with goalkeeper Owu beaten.

Ghana and Spain drew 1-1 when they met in the same qualifying group last week.

Lamptey and Spain's Antonio Segura finished as joint top scorers with four goals each, along with Adriano of Brazil, eliminated by Ghana in the quarter-finals.

★★★★★



PAUL AGOSTINO

Joey's

For the Joey's, who were let down by a weakness in the goalkeeping department, Paul Agostino took out the "Best Player" prize, but I liked defender Paul Dee.

A lot was expected from the two "Ks", twin-strikers Alex Kiratzoglou and Vasilios Kalogarakos, but neither fully delivered because they lacked great service.

Ghana Stars

Ghana's World Cup stars have been snapped up by European clubs.

Lamptey has been joined at Anderlecht by national team-mates, libero Isaac Asare and fellow-striker Yaw Preko.

And crack German outfit Bayern Munich snared midfielder Mohammed Gargo while Bayer Leverkusen have made another midfielder, Nana Alexander Opoku, theirs.

Surprisingly Italy, where the event was held, showed no interest in the World Cup's most exciting performers.

Lamptey was also the best player of view in Italy, in my opinion.

★★★★★

New Rules

FIFA experimented with the offside rule during the tournament and congratulated itself after the qualifying round produced 65 goals in 24 games at an average of 2.7 per match, better than the three previous editions in China, Canada and Scotland.

FIFA reduced the offside area to a line 16 metres in front of goal, level with the penalty area.

With 16 goals in the eight matches from the quarterfinals to the final the average dropped to 2.5.

FIFA also tried another innovation, penalising a goalkeeper who handled the ball from a pass back by a team mate after putting the ball back into play.

★★★★★

Third-placed Argentina, on their best behaviour after FIFA suspended their under-19 team for two years following a brawl in their match against hosts Portugal in the World Youth Cup, won the Fair Play trophy.

Fair Play eliminated Australia from the tournament with a 2-1 quarterfinal victory.

★★★★★

Pelé

Alex Kiratzoglou had one special off-the-field memory from the world championships.

He met Pelé and has his photograph taken with the guest one.

Pelé takes a special interest in the under 17 world series.

In Scotland two years ago, Pelé and two Joey's appeared together on the cover of the prestigious "World Soccer" monthly.



PELE POWER: THE MASTER AT WORK

RooBall off to great start

BY CON STAVROS

OLYMPIC Park Melbourne, the scene of many a Socceroo triumph, provided the backdrop for the national launch of an exciting new game aimed at junior players last week.

RooBall, a modified form of soccer, was devised by former Liverpool star and current Australian Soccer Federation Youth Ambassador Craig Johnston, and is targeted at all children between the ages of six and ten.

Essentially an extension of the traditional five-a-side game, RooBall seeks to encourage skill development and enjoyment in a non-competitive environment. Being gender neutral, the sport also allows both girls and boys to participate in a common recreational pursuit.

The National Drug Offensive has continued its meritorious involvement in Australian Soccer by proudly sponsoring the concept of RooBall throughout the country. It is expected that in association with the respective state federations, the game will be compulsory in its age category by 1993.

The high-profile launch was well attended by many guest celebrities, including Johnston himself. Speaking to ABSW, he outlined the intensive plans behind the development of the concept.

"Our aim is to take RooBall and our anti-drugs messages to as many schools as possible in every State and Territory," he said.

"As a youngster/my best friend was my soccer ball. We went everywhere together. We spent hours devising new games and practicing skills. These simple fun games enabled me to go to England and play for Liverpool, the biggest club in the world."

"But even at Liverpool the games didn't stop. Every morning we played our own form of RooBall, a simple six-a-side game, because even grown up players have to enjoy their soccer. At primary school age we're not looking for fitness or tactics. We're looking for smiles and laughter and that's what RooBall is all about."

Other celebrities at the promotion included Australian Football League champion John Platten of the famous Hawthorn team. Platten, who has won awards as the best and fairest player in both Victoria



and his native South Australia, was a keen spectator at the Celebrity Squad versus Primary Schoolchildren match.

"I used to play a bit of soccer as a kid," he quipped. "But despite an uncanny resemblance to Craig Johnston, 'The Rat', as Platten is affectionately known, didn't risk injury by tackling the talented youngsters displaying ample skill and enthusiasm on the park."

Hosting proceedings at the launch was the Honorable Peter Stables, Federal Minister for Aged, Family and Health Services, who also kicked off the big match.

"I am delighted that the National Drug Offensive is now associated with an initiative which encourages youngsters to build on their own individual potential, in a healthy environment, free of unwanted competitive

pressures," he told ABSW.

Indeed the theme of non-competition is integral to the philosophy of RooBall. Too often the win at all costs mentality of parents is detrimental to the development of our junior athletes.

Soccer as a sport with a relatively long playing potential for the average participant is ideally best learnt in a comfortable environment where enjoyment and participation are paramount to the often abused notions of getting a result.

Brazil is perhaps the classic example of a nation rich in talented juniors built on the time honored tradition of kicking a ball around for fun. RooBall by harnessing the enthusiasm and passion of the six to ten year old is fostering not only skilful players but also competent and adjusted citizens capable of developing into creditable soccer players and supporters in later life.

RooBall is capable of being played by either nine or six players depending upon age group. Minor modifications aside, the sport is essentially one-touch soccer played on half a regulation soccer pitch.

Equipment is minimal with only an appropriate size ball and mar-

kers for goals required. Coaches are encouraged to rotate players as much as possible to prevent players thinking of themselves as defenders or attackers. Paul Wade, our Socceroo Captain Courageous, proved this with a fine display as goalkeeper in the RooBall exhibition.

Anissa Tann, current Captain of Australia's female Socceroo, also displayed her considerable talent in the game, featuring guests from the top rating Neighbours television show, Rachel Blakely and Andrew Williams.

To its credit, Australian soccer has in recent times been instrumental in sponsorship initiatives that complement athletic ideals.

Through its association with the QUIT campaign, soccer has shown the way to other sports by severing all links to tobacco sponsorship and backing the national Smoking, Who Needs It? promotion to reduce harm caused by smoking.

John Constantine, President of the Australian Soccer Federation, was delighted at the association of RooBall with the anti-drugs campaign, citing it as great opportunity for primary school children to be exposed to our great national and international sport.

Fil was the finest and a real legend

He was Apia through and through!

BY TOM ANDERSON

'AN honest man now lies at rest,
As e'er God with his image blest,
The friend of man, the friend of truth,
The friend of age, and guide of youth:
Few hearts like his, with virtue warm'd,
Few heads with knowledge so inform'd:
If there's another world, he lives in bliss;
If there is none, he made the best of this.

- ROBERT BURNS

The death last week of my good mate and former Apia great Fil Bottalico brought sadness throughout the Australian soccer scene.

For Fil, a gentle giant, was loved and revered by all who had the pleasure to know him. He was a big man in every way.

In his passing, the game of soccer in this country has lost a prodigious talent, and a man who was the epitome of loyalty to his beloved Apia club.

Fil lived for two things, his family - his wife Gioia and sons Jim and Alex and daughters Anna and Amanda - and Apia.

He will ever remain a legend at the Apia club and throughout the Italian community in this country.

Fil arrived in Australia from Egypt to join Apia in 1959.

As a player, he made over 400 appearances for the club.

And, over the years, he had also served as coach and marketing man.

My own close relationship with Fil began in 1974 when he was my assistant coach at Apia.

And we remained firm friends ever since.

Fil was special.

Today's society is so ordered, that we all work very hard on achievement, on getting things done and on

gaining material things.

Things are the antithesis of people; and that's the choice we so often face - people or things, relationships or accomplishments.

But Big Fil had it right.

In his book, success was...about people and relationships and how to better understand both.

Fil believed that true success is knowing what really matters.

Knowing what has lasting value - pursuing the things that endure.

For him, purpose was joy, and joy was purpose.

Fil Bottalico was a man of inner greatness.

This enabled him to raise a solid family, and serve his fellowmen in simple, basic ways.

As a player and skipper of the club, his teammates had a tremendous respect for him, and with his burning enthusiasm, he urged them on to the extremes of their ability.

When he retired, he bowed out in glory after a period when he enriched the existence of thousands with his performances at Lambert Park.

Superstar is a catchphrase of the nineties, and wasn't around during Fil's playing days.

If it had, Fil could



The late and great Fil Bottalico.

have been aptly given that appellation.

During his coaching career, to some who did not know him all that well, Fil paradoxically demonstrated the skin of a Rhino and the sensitivity of a butterfly, according to his team plans.

But in the dressing

room with his players, he had the gift of being able to motivate them into believing they possessed greater ability than they really had.

His wonderful manner enabled him to create a team with unity and identity.

Former American

President Theodore Roosevelt once said 'In the battle of life, it is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out where the strong man stumbled or where the doer of the deed could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually

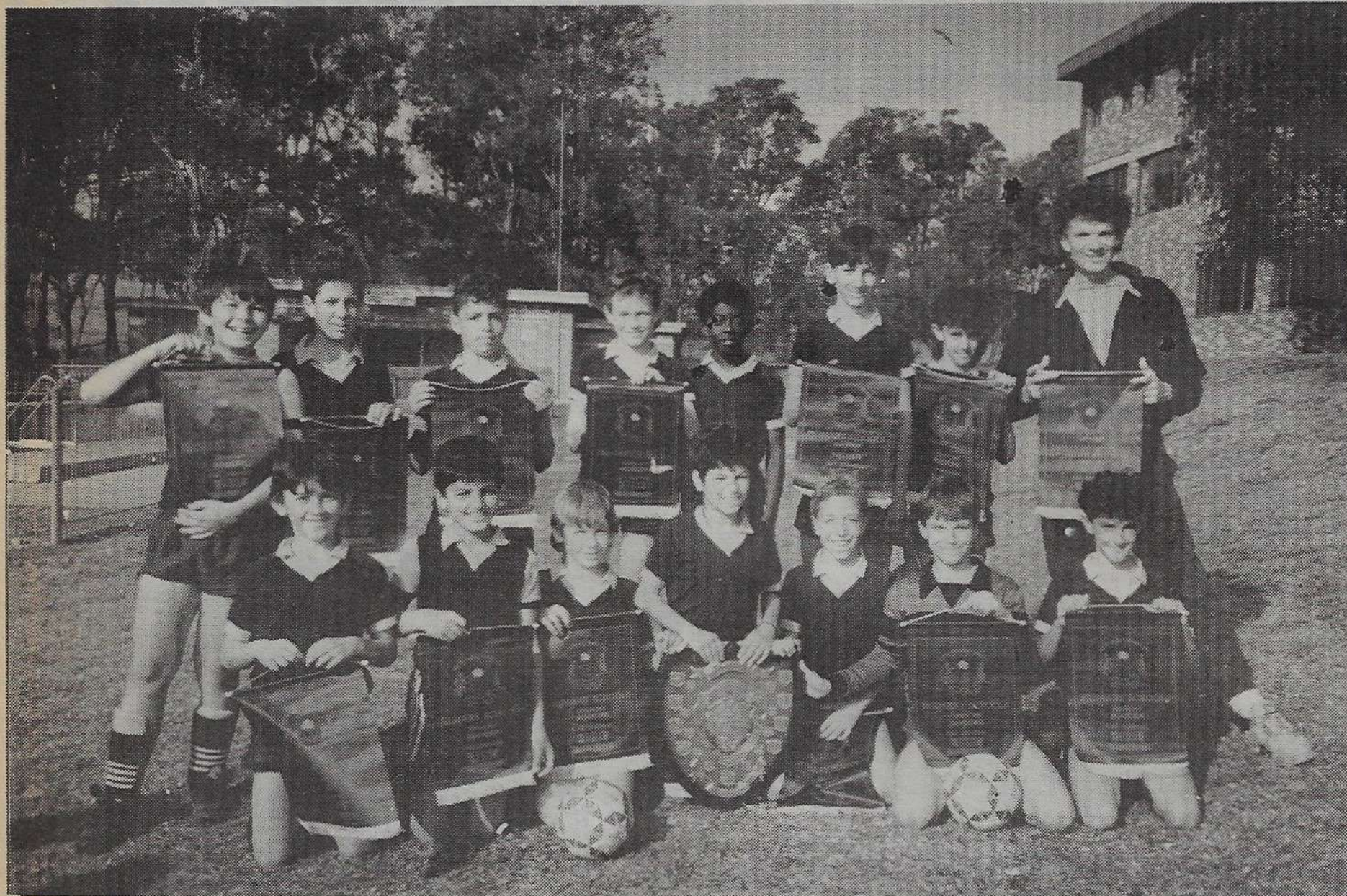
in the arena, whose face is marred by blood and sweat. Who strives valiantly, who does actually strive to do the deeds, and who falls short again and again because there is not effort without failure. Who knows the great vicissitudes, the great challenges and who, if

he succeeds, knows the triumph of high achievement and who, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be among those cold and timid souls who never knew either victory or defeat.'

This indeed was Fil Bottalico.

JUNIOR JOTTINGS . . .

Bankies are toast of the west



The Bankstown Public School Senior Boys team have completed their season, by becoming the NSW Primary Schools Soccer Champions for 1991.

At the New South Wales Soccer Federation's Headquarters, (Valentine Sports Park, Parklea) on Tuesday 27th August in the NSW Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) Knockout Soccer Competition Grand-Final, the Bankstown team beat Valley View Public School (Hunter Region). The final score was 3-1. In winning this game, the 'Mitre Shield' has been

won by a school from the PSSA Bankstown District, for the first time.

In recent weeks, the Bankstown team have scored a hattrick by becoming the Premiers of the Bankstown District; the Metropolitan South-West Region and finally the State Premiers.

In retrospect of the 1991 season, this talented team have played 23 games, scored 111 goals with 8 goals against. Undoubtedly, the dedication and commitment, each of the individual team members has to soccer nurtured the magic and success that allowed the team to take the paramount title of New South Wales State Soccer Champions.

Other significant factors in the team's success are: most of the boys play soccer in weekend competitions in various sides affiliated to the Bankstown Soccer Association; parental support has been strong throughout the season and unabated enthusiasm for soccer by each team member.

The team is: Zlatko Djurdjevic, Rami Faraj, Ali Karnib, Michael Heath, Julius Owusu, Pece Suminovski (Captain), Tiho Grbasliev, Mr Campbell Wright, Vlado Kiparizov, Danny Iaali, Tome Tasevski, Devrim Huseyin (Captain), Nick Karagiannis, Kris Jovevski, Tony Grbasliev, Mr Campbell Wright (Coach).

Program starting to work

AS the junior season draws to its 1991 conclusion the first encouraging signs of the NSWASF's development program are beginning to bear fruit with an overall increase of registration figures close to 9%.

The represents a very satisfying result for an organisation that already boasts 100,000 players. When many other sporting codes are fighting losses soccer can be proud of this trend and there is ample evidence to suggest that the growth will continue during the 1990s.

The most spectacular improvements in Sydney Branch belong to Canterbury, Illawarra and Nepean Associations whose numbers jumped sharply in total registrations.

Sutherland retains its position as the largest junior association again in 1991. The Northern Branch of the NSWASF was affected by the loss of Macquarie Association, while on the other hand Central Coast achieved a remarkable increase in their figures due to a lot of pre-season promotional activity and also a concerted drive to di-

Robbie Wheatley reports . . .

tribute brochures in schools over four weeks. Eurobodella in Southern Branch had a 50% increase for 1991.

The final total will be in the vicinity of 105,000 players. All areas of NSW have felt the competition from other winter codes and the situation with the economy and unemployment has been disastrous. The general trend towards "belt tightening" does not seem to have stopped the growth of our game at the grass roots level and congratulation must go to that army of volunteers who continue to push the message in all of the states 35 associations.

NSWASF General Manager Cec Bucello is delighted with the results and explained that "the appointment of a Promotions and Development Officer to regularly visit schools, to conduct a program of country coaching clinics and to generally promote the code in every possible avenue is starting to pay dividends. The associations are to be congratulated on their foresight in assisting in the funding of such a position."



MARK BOSNICH

Other factors that have dramatically improved the code's image are the results of Australia's youth team and even more recently the Joeys in Portugal and Italy respectively. The authoritative monthly magazine World Soccer described the Australian U20s as "a revelation" with several players, including Paul Okon and David Seal, being written up as world class for their age. Australian No.1 Mark Bosnich, who recently signed with Sydney Croatia, was bracketed with two or three

other stars as the star players of the tournament.

The television exposure and newspaper coverage afforded to these two major soccer events pleases the soccer fraternity and does wonders for its profile.

The flow-on effect of all these factors will be interesting to follow in future seasons. Even something as simple as good weather over the previous season influences a parent's choice of what to play.

The tail-end of the season also produces some of its most exciting aspects. State-run competitions such as the Champion of Champions, finals of the Junior League and Umbro Youth League (St George Stadium — Saturday 7.9.91), together with the State Titles held in different country venues provide a suitable climax with top class soccer in every age group assured. It is no secret that the stars of the future are all involved in these elite tournaments and NSW's increasing numbers ensure that the base of the triangle remains as stable as ever.

Women change name

EXTRA clubs have the opportunity to enter the Women's Federation League for 1992.

The naming of the competitions has been altered from Women's State League, and with the change comes greater opportunities for two categories of clubs.

The first could involve those that can field two teams, either in their own right or by two teams combining to form a new club.

As it stands, the top league has seven teams, and the idea is to increase it to 10, each with its reserve grade.

This might be accomplished by the Wollongong area combining its best players into one very competitive club, with another possibility involving the Central Coast, which is no distance from Sydney and which has many quality players.

Leading women players are keen to see the competition expanded, provided that quality can be maintained or at least if the new clubs have the ability to improve themselves to be quite competitive within a year or two.

One point that could increase the overall

standard would be to have a distribution of the leading players amongst the clubs, rather than have them concentrated in one or two.

That isn't easy to achieve, but it could be to the overall benefit.

The second category that could have a future in the Women's Federation

League is the one team club.

It may well have junior girls teams, but has not the capacity to enter a reserve grade side at this stage.

Both kinds of clubs would find their future well catered for in the Women's Federation League.

SOLICITORS

Our firm specialises in all legal matters involving the soccer code, and including:

- Playing being cited for infringements
- Clubs being cited for bringing the game into disrepute
- Appearing before the Tribunals and Committees of the State and National Leagues
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North Ryde is the champion



CAROL VINSON

THE extra experience in the North Ryde women's side carried them through to victory in both this year's Women's State League and the Championship Grand Final.

It was 0-0 after extra time when the Grand Final at Valentine Sports Park against Western District Hellas got down to penalty kicks, and then North Ryde emerged 5-4 winners.

The game was played under miserable conditions, with the wind howling across the field throughout the game.

Brilliant goalkeeping by Vicki Cerney (nee Salmon) saved Western Districts on many occasions.

Best opportunities came from a penalty for North Ryde — which was missed — for a trip on Janine Riddington and one on the bar from Michelle Rayner, with Kim Lembryk narrowly not scoring from a typically brilliant shot for Wests.

Carol Vinson could have won the game for North Ryde in extra time, but she slipped up as she attempted to round opposing goalkeeper, Kim Schaefer.

The victory enabled former Irish international Teresa McCann to end her career on a winning note.

Australian international and North Ryde player Janine McPhee pointed to the strength

in the North Ryde squad.

"All members of the team have played for the state, and eight are NSW members now," she said.

NSW coach Oscar Gonzalez has the state squad in preparation for the 1991 National Championships, which begin in Canberra next Monday.

There are only a few changes from the NSW team that was successful in Sydney last year.

Defender Tracey Weston and attacking midfielder Michelle Watson have won their places.

This year the NSW Under 19s, with John Pentecost as coach, won both the National title and the 1v2 play off.

Sue Andrews' under 16 team ran second, but won the play off.

National captain Anissa Tann aims to get some solace from helping to win the Nationals again, after the miss to the powerful New Zealand women in the Oceania qualifiers for the first FIFA women's World Cup, to be held in China later this year.

"We have been stepping up our training, and should be ready for a very competitive series," she said.

Anissa Tann did a brilliant job as player-coach for the young North Rocks side, which ran third in the competition this year.

The extra experience should see them pressing for the top position in 1992.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

PHOTOS BY HECTOR CARRASCO



RAUL BLANCO WITH SUTHERLAND U/11 CAPTAIN



GERRY GOMEZ WITH REFEREE DAVID HOARE



MARK BOSNICH WITH MARCONI U/13 CAPTAIN



MARCONI U/13 WINNERS



SUTHERLAND U/11 WINNERS



ST GEORGE U/14 WINNERS



ST GEORGE U/12 WINNERS

KEEP GOING FOR MORE BIG EURO SOCCER NEWS

ITALY

Atalanta 1 Ascoli 1, Cremonese 0 Napoli 0, Fiorentina 3 Genoa 1, Foggia 0 Juventus 1, Milan 1 Cagliari 0, Parma 1 Bari 0, Roma 0 Inter 1, Sampdoria 2 Verona 0, Torino 0 Lazio 1.

STANDINGS

Juventus	4
AC Milan	4
Lazio	3
Internazionale	3
Parma	3
Napoli	3
Sampdoria	2
Fiorentina	2
Cagliari	2
Genoa	2
AS Roma	2
Atalanta	1
Ascoli	1
Bari	1
Foggia	1
Torino	1
Cremonese	1
Verona	0

NEXT ROUND

Bari v Sampdoria, Cagliari v Roma, Cremonese v Torino, Fiorentina v Foggia, Genoa v Ascoli, Inter v Verona, Juventus v Milan, Lazio v Atalanta, Napoli v Parma.

SPAIN

Sporting Gijon 3 Athletic Bilbao 2, Real Madrid 1 Real Valladolid 0, Logrones 2 Cadiz 1, Deportivo Coruna 1 Tenerife 1, Albacete 1 Valencia 0, Real Burgos 4 Osasuna 0, Real Mallorca 0 Atletico Madrid 2, Espanol 0 Real Oviedo 1, Real Sociedad 0 Real Zaragoza 0, Sevilla 4 Barcelona 2.

Latest overseas results & tables

STANDINGS

Atletico Madrid	4
Sevilla	4
Real Madrid	4
Sporting Gijon	4
Tenerife	3
Real Oviedo	3

GREECE

AEK 0 Panathinaikos 0, Athinaikos 1 Apollon 1, Aris 1 Olympiakos 0, Doxa 3 Iraklis 0, Ethnikos 1 PAOK 1, Corinthos 2 OFI 1, Xanthi 3 Larissa 1, Panionios 0 Panahaiki 0, Serres 1 Pierikos 0.

STANDINGS

Panathinaikos	3
Apollon	3
Doxa	3
Serres	3
Pierikos	3
Aris	3

GERMANY

Wattenscheid 1 Schalke 2, Borussia M. 1 Dynamo Dresden 0, Bayern Munich 1 Kaiserslautern 0, Nuremberg 1 Hamburg 1, Karlsruhe 2 Werder Bremen 1, B. Leverkusen 1 F. Dueseldorf 1, VfB Stuttgart 4 Bochum 1, Eintrach F. 6 Stuttgart Kickers 1, Borussia D. 3 Cologne

1, Duisburg 2 Hansa Rostock 0.

STANDING

Frankfurt	11
VfB Stuttgart	11
Hansa Rostock	10
Borussia D.	10
Bayern Munich	10
Hamburg	10
B. Leverkusen	9
Kaiserslautern	9
Schalke	8
Werder Bremen	8
Nuremberg	8
Karlsruhe	8
Duisburg	6
S. Kickers	6
Wattenscheid	6
Cologne	6
Borussia M.	5
Bochum	5
Dynamo Dresden	5
Fortuna D.	3

FRANCE

Marseille 2 Toulouse 0, Monaco 3 Toulon 0, Nantes 1 St Etienne 0, Le Havre 0 Metz 0, Lyon 0 Paris St Germain 1, Lille 0 Sochaux 0, Auxerre 1 Lens 0, Montpellier 3 Caen 1, Nancy 2 Nimes 3, Cannes 3 Rennes 1.

STANDINGS

Monaco	16
Marseille	14
Nantes	12
P. St Germain	12
Metz	11
Auxerre	11
Lille	11

Le Havre	10
Lens	9
Caen	9
St Etienne	8
Nimes	8
Cannes	7
Sochaux	7
Toulouse	7
Lyon	7
Montpellier	6
Toulon	6
Rennes	5
Nancy	4

BELGIUM

Aalst 0 Lierse 0, Kortrijk 0 FC Liege 0, Standard Liege 0 Beveren 0, Mechelen 3 Molenbeek 0, Ghent 2 Ekeren 0, Antwerp 0 Lokeren 2, Genk 3 Charleroi 0, Cercle Brugge 5 Waregem 1, Anderlecht 1 Club Brugge 1.

STANDINGS

Anderlecht	8
Club Brugge	7
Genk	7
Mechelen	7
Waregem	6
Ghent	6
Antwerp	5
Lokeren	5
Standard L.	5
C. Brugge	5
Molenbeek	4
Beveren	4
Kortrijk	4
FC Liege	4
Charleroi	3
Aalst	3
Lierse	3
Ekeren	2

SWISS

Aarau 1 FC Zurich 3, Grasshoppers 3 Wettingen 1, Lucerne 1 Young Boys 1, St Gallen 2 Neuchatel Xamax 1, Servette 2 Lugano 1, Sion 2 Lausanne 2.

STANDINGS

Grasshoppers	16
Lausanne	15
Sion	15
Servette	10
Lucerne	10
Young Boys	9
Lugano	9
Aarau	8
St Gallen	8
Xamax	7
FC Zurich	7
Wettingen	6

ROMANIA

F.C. Bacau 1 F.C. Farul Constanta 0, Dinamo Bucharest 5 F.C. Inter Sibiu 0, Corvinul Hunedoara 4 Sportul Studentesc 1, Progresul Braila 1 F.C. Arges Pitesti 1, Rapid Bucharest 2 F.C. Brasov 1, A.S.A. Electromures 1 Steaua Bucharest 0, Otetul Galati 1 Universitatea Craiova 0, Petrolul Ploiesti 1 Gloria Bistrita 0, Electroputere Craiova 2 Politehnica Timisoara 0.

STANDINGS

D. Bucharest	5
E. Craiova	5
F.C. Bacau	5
Corvinul H.	4
P. Timisoara	4
Steaua Bucharest	4
Rapid Bucharest	4
Otetul Galati	4
Petrolul P.	4
U. Craiova	3
F.C. Brasov	2
Gloria Bistrita	2
ASA Electromures	2
Progresul B.	2
Inter Sibiu	2
Arges Pitesti	1
Sportul S.	1
F. Constanta	0



HOLLAND

FC Utrecht 1 Willem II Tilburg 0, Vitesse Arnhem 4 SVV/Dordrecht '90 1, FC Volendam 1 VVV Venlo 0, RKC Waalwijk 6 Sparta Rotterdam 2, FC Groningen 1 FC Twente 2, Feyenoord Rotterdam 1 Roda JC Kerkrade 1, MVV Maastricht 1 FC Den Haag 1, De Graafschap Doetinchem 2 Fortuna Sittard 0.

POLAND

Slask Wroclaw 2 Stal Mielec 0, GKS Katowice 1 Pegrotour Bebia 0, Motor Lublin 0 Gornik Zabrze 0, LKS Lodz 1 Lech Poznan 1, Hutnik Krakow 0 Zagłębie Lubin 1, Olimpia Poznan 1 Wisla Krakow 2, Legia Warszawa 1 Widzew Lodz 0, Zagłębie Sosnowiec 2 Stal Stalowa Wola 1, Zawisza Bydgoszcz 2 Ruch Chorzow 2.

STANDINGS

Lech Poznan	11
Widzew Lodz	11
Wisla Krakow	11
GKS Katowice	10
Zawisza B.	10
Ruch Chorzow	10

TURKEY

Galatasaray 1 Ankaragucu 0, Besiktas 2 Altay 1, Genclerbirlii 4 Sariyer 3, Samsunspor 2 Boluspor 2, Gaziantepspor 2 Trabzonspor 1, Bursaspor 1 Fenerbahce 2, Aydinspor 1 Adanademirspor 1, Bakirkoyspor 0 Konyaspor 0.

STANDINGS

Galatasaray	6
Gaziantepspor	6
Boluspor	4
Genclerbirlii	4
Aydinpor	4
Besiktas	4
Trabzonspor	3
Ankaragucu	3
Fenerbahce	3
Konyaspor	2
A.demirspor	1
Bakirkoyspor	1
Samsunspor	1
Sariyer	0
Altay	0

SOUTH AMERICA

with
Mario Etchart

Chilean strikers find going tough

SOLID defences proved an almost impossible barrier for Chilean strikers in the National Soccer League.

The only goal of the entire round was scored by Fernandez Vial's defender David Gomez in a match where his team beat Everton 1-0.

Libertadores Cup champion Colo Colo, obviously still suffering from the shock 6-1 defeat by Real Madrid in a friendly clash played the previous week, only managed a scoreless draw against Coquimbo Unido.

The unique round, which most probably qualifies for entry into the Guinness Book of records was a big surprise.

The leader, Universidad Catolica and O'Higgins drew 0-0 and all the other matches finished with the same result: La Serena 0 Regional Antofagasta 0, Deportes Concepcion 0 Wanderers 0, Cobresal 0 Palestino 0.

Catolica leads the competition with 20 points from 14 games, followed by Antofagasta and Coquimbo with 19, Colo Colo and Concepcion 17, O'Higgins 15, Fernandez Vial 13, Cobresal, La Serena, Everton and Palestino 12, Universidad de Chile and Cobresal 11, Wanderers 10, Osorno and Union Espanola 9.

★★★

Argentine national coach, Alfio Basile, wasn't very impressed with the new rules because "they are in bad taste and disfigure the spectacle."

"I don't like the new rules, maybe because I am too conservative, because it is very difficult for me to get away from the traditional game," declared Basile to an Argentine newspaper soon after the end of the Under 17 World Cup held in Italy.

"With the offside in line with the box there is a much bigger space and

there is unnecessary pressure put on the midfielders.

"When there is the time to defend, the defenders or the midfielders kick the ball to the stands because they can't pass it back to the goalkeeper, it's sad," added Basile.

But Basile agrees with the rule about the limited mobility of the goalkeepers with the ball in their hands.

"That rule is right because they can't retain the ball, they can't speculate with the time."

"But I consider the other rules a lack of respect for the public," said Basile.

Is to the future of the game with the new rules in place, the coach stated that. "There won't be many players in offside positions, but there will be a many more throw-ins, the ball will be out of play much more because the defenders will kick it into the stands in an attempt to avoid the pressure."

"I think it is of bad taste to play with the hands, in a game that should be played with the feet and the brains," continued Basile.

The coach who guided Argentina to win the Copa America after 32 years of drought, predicted the new rules will bring four defenders in line at the back in a block zone.

He is sure the game will be then be played in a 70 metre zone, and the players who are caught in two minds will boot the ball into the stands.

Also on the Under 17 World Cup, Basile said that he noticed "very lonely strikers" playing very close to the goalkeepers.

"It remained me of the games we used to play on the streets in my suburb when I was a kid, without any offside rules, very informal games," he said.

"I believe the new rules won't be implemented. I spoke with

many people and coaches during the World Cup and most of them agreed with me"

★★★

Boca Juniors and San Lorenzo drew 0-0 in the first derby match of the 1991-1992 Argentine National League.

Daniel Passarella's team, River Plate, started the competition with a 2-1 win over Rosario Central. Rosario went ahead in the 20th minute when David Bisconti scored for the visitors. But River Plate, after a hard struggle to dominate, scored twice in the last five minutes. Ex-Argentine international striker Ramon Diaz netted both goals in the 81 and 89th minutes.

Another big gun, Independiente, now under the guidance of its former star midfielder Ricardo Bochini, defeated newcomer Quilmes 2-0, while Racing, with a team of youngsters, drew 0-0 with Huracan.

Argentine champion, Newell's Old Boys only

managed a 0-0 draw with Union of Stana Fe.

Other results:

Talleres 2 Argentinos Juniors 0, Estudiantes de La Plata 0 Platense 0, Mandiyu 0 Gimnasia y Esgrima 0, Deportivo Espanol 1 Belgrano of Cordoba 0, Ferro Carril Oeste 1 Velez Sarsfield 0.

Independiente, River Plate, Talleres, Ferro and Deportivo Espanol lead the tournament with two points, followed by Racing, Huracan, Boca Juniors, San Lorenzo, Estudiantes, Platense, Newell's Union and Gimnasia y Esgrima with 1.

★★★

In Ecuador, Emelec and Tecnico Universitario lead their respective groups in the second phase of the Ecuadorian National League.

Emelec drew 0-0 with Barcelona with Tecnico Universitario thrashed Green Cross 5-1.

Other results:

Liga Deportiva de Quito 2 Universidad Catolica 2, Delfin 3 Cuenca 1,

Deportivo Quito 0 Nacional 0, Valdez 2 Centro Juvenil 1.

Emelec leads Group A with 10 points followed by Barcelona with 9 and Liga Deportiva and Cuenca with 6.

In Group B, Tecnico Universitario is the leader with 11 points, with Nacional and Valdez in second position with eight each.

★★★

In Peru, Defensor Lima, Universitario, San Agustin and Alianza Lima are the leaders of the National League after the new season's first round.

Defensor Lima defeated Octavio Espinoza 5-2 while Universitario and San Agustin defeated Deportivo Municipal and Deportivo Yurimaguas respectively by a similar 3-0 scoreline.

Alianza beat AELU 2-1 and Sporting Cristal, the first Peruvian team to qualify for the next series of the Copa Libertadores drew 1-1 with Sport Boys.

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



- Brian Bliss, the young US international, has left Energie Cottbus but will still play in the eastern part of Germany, having joined Chemnitzer FC (ex-Karlmarxstadt).
- Marius Lacatus, the Romanian striker who failed to make an impression in Italy with Fiorentina, will play this season in Spain — with Real Oviedo.
- Former German international Wolfgang Rolff, who last season played for relegated Bayer Uerdingen, has joined SC Karlsruhe. The 32-year-old striker signed for two season years.
- The breakaway Yugoslav republic of Slovenia has decided to use Italian instead of Yugoslav matches for its soccer pools later this year. It will cost Ljubljana \$400,000 to obtain the rights.
- Igor Belanov, who now plays in the German Second Division for Eintracht Braunschweig, is likely to return to the Soviet Union. The 1986 European Player of the Year seems certain to end his career in his native Odessa, with Cernomorets.
- Gerd-Volker Shock, Hamburg's 41-year-old coach, has renewed his contract with the Bundesliga club until 1993.
- Wisla Krakow last month reached a milestone: it played its 1300th Polish First Division match. For the historic occasion, the struggling club attracted its largest crowd since 1983 — 16,223 spectators — for a 3-3 draw with Gornik Zabrze. Two Argentinian players — Garcia and Suller — have joined the club this season.
- Brondby's two Nigerian internationals, Ukechukwu and Friday Elahor, went missing for three weeks when they failed to return to Denmark after playing in an African Nations' Cup qualifier in Lagos. They could not be located anywhere and vanished without a trace after the game, only to, resurface without telling anyone where they had been.
- PAOK Salonika have transferred their two Egyptian internationals — defender Hany Ramzy and centre forward Hossan Hassan — to Swiss side Neuchatel Xamax.
- Spanish club Oviedo, who meet Genoa in the first round of the UEFA Cup, have signed Catalan midfielder Jordi Vinals from Betis Sevilla for three seasons.
- Dinamo Bucharest of Romania are interested in signing Bologna's Bulgarian international striker, Nikolai Iliev.
- Hungarian national team goalkeeper Zsolt Petry will play in Belgium this season after transferring from Honved to Ghent.
- Victor Shmarov, the Spartak Moscow centre-forward, has joined Bundesliga club Karlsruhe. He is the fifth player from that side to move west.
- Nineteen-year-old Pedro Pineda, who played for Mexico in the Youth World Cup in Portugal, has been signed by AC Milan. They paid Guadelajara \$400,000 for the talented striker.
- Former Argentinian international Richardo Giusti has quit Independiente to join Union Santa Fe.
- When Norway meet Hungary in an under-16 international, history will be made. It will be the first international game ever refereed by a whistler from the tiny north Atlantic Faroe Islands. Nemos Doorhus will be in charge.
- Brazilian international defender Geovani — who visited Australia for the 1988 Bicentennial Gold Cup — has left his German club, Karlsruhe, to rejoin his old Rio side, Vasco de Gama.
- Marcelo Barticciotto, Colo Colo's Argentinian striker-cum-midfielder, once chased by Marseille, has been transferred to Sevilla of Spain for \$1.6 million.



Botafogo striker Renato Gauchio. His club is doing well in the new Rio season now under way.



NOT ALL SUNSHINE AND ROSES IN SPAIN

BIG money and big crowds characterise the top flight of Spanish football, but this is the tip of a bottom-heavy pyramid.

Underneath the First and Second Division 'A' is a whole gamut of regionally operated divisions.

The players are sometimes full-timers, sometimes semi-pros, but mainly amateur.

The games are played in front of small crowds in stadia that resist the ravages of time as well as they can.

The pitch is more likely to be of sand and packed dirt than grass.

In the lower reaches, famous old clubs mourn the loss of status and contemplate the long way back up.

One of the big differences between most European and Spanish Leagues is in the way the reserve teams are treated.

In Spain, they are regarded as almost autonomous units.

They wear the same colours and play in the same league, but they can't compete in the same division.

If a reserve team of a First Division club finishes top of the Second, it can't go up.

And if big brother gets relegated, little brother has to drop a notch.

They can, however, play each other in the cup. In 1980, the cup final was a fratricidal affair between Real Madrid and their young understudies, Castilla.

The Second Division 'A' is of a good standard, with direct promotion to the First for the top three with play-offs as well. Below that is the Second Division 'B', composed of four sections.

Eighty clubs are vying for four promotion places and some big names have fallen into it, including the brother teams of Atletico Madrid, Real Madrid and Barca, as well as Santander, founder members of the league, and Recreativo, the oldest club in Spain.

Below them is the amateur Third, with

340 teams in seventeen divisions with complicated play-offs to negotiate on the way back up.

A club now in the Third was part of the initial league championship back in 1928 — CE Europa.

— reprinted from "When Saturday Comes", Britain's top fanzine

Bayern Munich's expensive new signing from Karlsruhe, Oliver Kreuzer, in action against Hansa Rostock's Florian Weichert in recent Bundesliga action.

SCOTS AMIGO

SAN Lorenzo winger Walter Rojas made history by becoming the first Argentinian to join a Scottish soccer club when Dundee United paid \$429,000 for him.

The 20-year-old has won 10 caps at under-21 level for Argentina.



Youth World Cup starlets Elber (Brazil) left and Pineda of Mexico, signed by AC Milan after the World Cup in Portugal.

WHO'S WHO IN YUGOSLAVIA

WITH internal strife threatening to destroy the concept of a unified Yugoslav state, the French daily sports paper, L'EQUIPE, delved into the ethnic backgrounds of the 22-man squad that represented that troubled country at Italia '90.

Their "findings":

- **TOMISLAV IVKOVIC:** Croatian (from Croatia) who has played in Serbia (Red Star Belgrade). Now in Portugal with Sporting Lisbon.
- **VUJADIN STANOJKOVIC:** Serb from Macedonia who plays with Partizan Belgrade.
- **PREDRAG SPASIC:** Serb from Serbia, now in the Spanish First Division.
- **ZORAN VULIC:** Croatian from Split in Dalmatia/Croatia. Plays now in France after two seasons with Mallorca of Spain.
- **FARUK HADZIBEGIC:** Muslim from Bosnia. Plays for Sochaux (France).
- **DAVOR JOZIC:** Croat from Herzegovina. Plays in Italy for Cesena.
- **DRAGAN BRNOVIC:** Montenegrin who plays for Metz (France).
- **SAFET SUSIC:** Muslim from Bosnia. Now in the French Second Division with Red Star Paris.
- **DARKO PANCEV:** Macedonian. Plays in Serbia with Red Star.
- **DRAGAN STOJKOVIC:** Serb from Serbia. Ex-Marseille player now with Italian Verona.
- **ZLATKO VUJOVIC:** Of Montenegrin origin, born in Sarajevo (Bosnia). Spent youth and early international career as a Hajduk Split player in Croatia. Now Paris-based.
- **FAHRUDIN OMEROVIC:** Muslim from Bosnia. Plays in Serbia for Partizan.
- **SRECKO KATANEC:** Slovenian, born at Ljubljana of Croatian parents. Plays for Italian champions Sampdoria.
- **ALEN BOKSIC:** Croatian from Split. Joined Marseille this season.
- **ROBERT PROSINECKI:** Born in Germany of a Croatian father and a Serb mother. Played for Dinamo Zagreb and Red Star Belgrade. Now with Real Madrid.
- **REFIK SABANADZOVIC:** Muslim from Montenegro, played in Bosnia (with Zeljeznicar Sarajevo). Is now in Serbia with Red Star.
- **ROBERT JARNI:** Croat from Croatia who plays for Hajduk Split.
- **MIRSAD BALJIC:** Muslim from Bosnia. Plays for Sion (Switzerland).
- **DEJAN SAVICEVIC:** Montenegrin. Plays for Red Star in Serbia.
- **DAVOR SUKER:** Croatian from Slavonia, now at HASK-Gradjanski (ex-Dinamo Zagreb).
- **ANDREJ PANADIC:** Croat from Croatia. Plays for HASK-Gradjanski.



DRAGAN STOJKOVIC: Serbian.

- **IVICA OSIM (coach):** Born in Sarajevo, Bosnia, his first name is typically Croatian, but in public, at least has never declared himself a Croat.

Turmoil in the Balkans

THE Union of European Football Associations has barred Yugoslav teams from hosting European club matches because of the precarious security situation in the country.



The turmoil in Yugoslavia may cost European champions Red Star dearly. It may be some time before they lift the trophy again.

A UEFA statement said Yugoslav clubs concerned would have to play home matches in a neutral country. It said the decision would take immediate effect and would apply for an "unspecified period".

Champions' Cup holder Red Star Belgrade, due to host Northern Ireland's Portadown in the first leg of the cup competition on September 18, is one of the clubs affected. UEFA requested the

Yugoslavian Football Association to inform it of the new venues by the end of last month.

UEFA said it took the decision at a meeting in Zurich because the internal political upheavals in Yugoslavia exposed any visiting team to a "certain amount of danger".

At least 350 people have died in ethnic violence in Yugoslavia since June 25, centered mainly in Croatia and other republics.

Hajduk Split, HASK-Gradjanski (ex-Dinamo Zagreb) and Partizan Belgrade are the other clubs involved.

Euro-Cups

Cup-Winners' Cup Preliminaries: Odense — Galway 4-0 (Odense win 7-0 aggregate and will meet Banik Ostrava in first round proper), Tottenham — Stockerau 1-0 (2-0 aggregate Tottenham, who next meet Hajduk Split).

EURO-92

JEAN-Pierre Papin scored twice to give France a 2-1 victory over Czechoslovakia that almost certainly secures his team a place in next year's European championship finals.

Papin's thundering volley eight minutes into the second half, followed by an opportunist's run and goal barely a minute from the final whistle, cancelled out the lead Czechoslovakia took through Vaclav Nemecek in the 21st minute.

Czechoslovakia's qualifying hopes effectively disappeared as Papin hailed his second goal. They remain in second place but are now four points adrift of the French who need only one point from their final two group games — away to Spain in October and home against Iceland the following month — to be sure of a trip to Sweden.

And in friendlies in Europe, also last Wednesday:

- Turkey 1 (Keser) USA 1 (Klopas) in Istanbul
- Spain 2 (Martin Vazquez, Manolo) Uruguay 1 (Gutierrez) in Ovideo
- Sweden 4 (Dahlin 2, Limpar, Thern) Yugoslavia 3 (Savicevic 2, Nilsson, og.)

HOLLOW US WIN

THE United States' first-ever soccer gold medal at the Pan-American Games is a hollow one, a "chocolate" medal of sports.

No member of the powerful South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) participated at the football tournament in the recent Games in Havana, Cuba.

The South Americans boycotted the event for the first time because of financial reasons.

Nicolas Leoz, president of CONMEBOL, said that although soccer brings in the most spectators at the Games and usually accounts for 70 percent of total attendances, the Cuban organisers had refused to foot the bill, forcing countries to pay for everything, from fares to meals and accommodation.

The South Americans thus chose to bypass the Pan-American Games to concentrate on the Olympic qualifying tournament for



Action from the US' World Cup qualifying win against Trinidad and Tobago in Port of Spain.

Barcelona which will be staged in Asuncion, Paraguay from February 1st to the 12th, 1992.

The South Americans, however, have intimated they will return to the fold in 1995 when Mar del Plata, Argen-

tina stages the Games.

The USA defeated Mexico 2-1 after extra-time to win this year's soccer gold medal.

Cuba grabbed the bronze, ahead of Honduras.

— LOU GAUTIER

CZECHS ARE NOT BOUNCING

THE 1991/92 Czechoslovakian First Division championship is now almost one month old, and already the same trend as last season has emerged.

Crowds are again sparse as the average fan in Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia still have a few crowns (the local currency) to spare.

And the clubs are still all in the red, with the possible exception of Slavia Prague, now owned by an American millionaire of Bohemian extraction.

Slavia, a great club in pre-World War II days, is the only team that has been able to buy any

players of note.

The exodus, however, has again been out of the country, with another batch of leading players joining foreign clubs.

Even Japan has become a destination for expats, including Sparta Prague's Bielik (who played against Australia this year).

Tittel, Hyravy, Daneek and Bartl have gone to France, Vytyskac, Gabriel and Dostal

to Turkey.

One bright spot, which may help domestic football regain its lost spectator appeal, is that as of January 1 all First and Second Division must have commercial sponsors.

Formerly State-supported club like Dukla and Sparta have already been privatised, with multi-national corporations like Opel and IBM involved.

— LOU GAUTIER



An incident from the off-season friendly in Italy between Lazio of Rome and the Czechoslovakian national team. In Euro-92 action last Wednesday France beat Czechoslovakia 2-1 in Bratislava.

Will it be Juventus in Italy this season?



Boca Juniors' Argentinian international Mohammed: he signed with Fiorentina but will only compete in the Italian league season after next.

JUVENTUS, after their worst season in 15 years, are favourites to win the Italian championship which began on September 1.

Giovanni Trapattoni, who has replaced Luigi Maifredi, is the reason for the renewed confidence.

The 52-year-old coach has been wrenched back from Inter Milan where in two years he won the league and UEFA Cup.

Trapattoni was the architect of Juventus' most successful period.

He led them to six League titles, two Cup wins, the European Cup, Cup Winners' Cup, UEFA Cup and Intercontinental Cup from 1976 to 1986.

Maifredi was unable to get the most out of World Cup heroes Toto Schilacci and \$17 million man Roberto Baggio.

Trapattoni, a man who loves discipline, will be expected to put out a better-drilled side this term.

He off-loaded German midfielder Thomas Hassler to Roma for \$12.5 million after one unhappy season and paid Bayern Munich \$US15

million for superstars. Jurgen Kohler and Stefan Reuter.

Fiorentina, for so long in the shadows of the big clubs, hope they have found the final piece of the jigsaw in Gabriel Battistuta.

Six goals for Argentina in the Copa America persuaded Fiorentina to pay Boca Juniors \$5.8 million for the striker who joins Brazilian stars Carlos Dunga and Mazinho.

But Brazilian coach Sebastiao Lazaroni may not last long if he fails to improve on last season's showing.

The club finished 12th, five places below Juventus.

Sampdoria have stayed loyal to the squad which won the club their first Championship title last season.

The additions give them quality cover — tough Juventus defender Dario Bonetti, Udinese midfielder pair Sandro Orlandi and Michele Za-

natta, Fiorentina striker Renato Busoa and a second Brazilian in Paolo Silas.

They start with a loss to Cagliari, who may well struggle again.

AC Milan, banned from Europe for their childish behaviour when losing to Marseille in March, are counting on their flying Dutchmen getting them back on top.

New coach Fabio Capello is expected to give Ruud Gullit, Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard greater freedom than Arrigo Sacchi allowed them last season.

Four knee operations wrecked Gullit's last two years but the man once rated amongst the world's greatest declares he is fit and ready.

"It's going to be an important season for me but my knee is OK and I feel relaxed and happy," he said.

Milan avoided any expensive signings and brought Diego Fuser from

Fiorentina and 31-year-old striker Aldo Serena from Inter.

Inter have replaced Trapattoni with Corrado Orrico, who went so close to winning promotion for little Lucchese last year.

Torino could be an outside bet as they have added Brazilian striker Walter Casagrande from Ascoli and Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo from French side Auxerre.

Scifo gets his second chance in Italy. He was a flop for Inter three years ago.

One man who cannot afford to fail is David Platt.

Ambitious Bari paid Aston Villa \$12 million for the England star.

"I am sure Platt will do well," said Gullit. "But he will have to adapt quickly."

Platt has spent six months learning Italian in an attempt to fit in but he might be glad of the company of Frank Farina!

UNDER-16 EUROPEANS

THE draw for the 10th European competition for Under-16 teams was held in Geneva, the final round of which will take place in May 1992 in Cyprus.

As the host country, Cyprus qualifies automatically for the final round.

Of the 35 UEFA national member associations, only England, the Faroe Islands, Liechtenstein and San Marino will not be competing in this event.

Israel will, however, be taking part.

The 31 participants (not including Cyprus) were divided into 14 groups of two and one group of three by means of a draw.

The group winners will qualify for the final round. The qualifying matches must be played by March 29, 1992.

Group 1

Wales
Rep. of Ireland

Group 2

Iceland
Northern Ireland

Group 3

Netherlands
Malta

Group 4

Germany
Albania

Group 5

USSR
Yugoslavia

Group 6

Israel
Turkey

Group 7

Luxembourg
Spain

Group 8

France
Austria

Group 9

Finland
Belgium

Group 10

Italy
Poland
Switzerland

Group 11

Hungary
Norway

Group 12

CSFR
Rumania

Group 13

Greece
Denmark

Group 14

Bulgaria
Scotland

Group 15

Portugal
Sweden

BORA'S BOAST



USA national team captain Paul Vermes. The sky's the limit for the USA in 1994 according to supremo Bora Milutinovic. Is it wishful thinking or a realistic assessment?

THE United States can win the World Cup when they host the finals in 1994, claims US national coach Bora Milutinovic.

"They're playing extraordinarily well," said Milutinovic, the Yugoslav who coached Mexico in the 1986 World Cup and Costa Rica in 1990.

"The US can win the next football World Cup.

"The only problem is a lack of competition at top level and that's why we'll take part in the Copa America," said Milutinovic, in Italy for the World under-17 championship.

The United States and Mexico have been invited by the South American Football Confederation to take part in their next continental tournament, in Argentina in 1993.

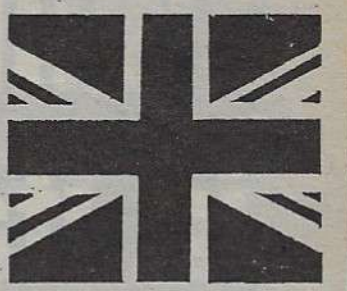
The Americans recently won two soccer

championships for the first time.

The senior team won the North and Central American (CONCACAF) title and the Olympic side took the Panamerican Games gold medal in Havana, Cuba, where South Americans did not compete.



HUGO PEREZ — the USA's most creative midfielder.



EDITED BY TOM ANDERSON

I'VE BEEN THROUGH HELL

In the last 18 months I have experienced death, sadness, despair, and the break-up of my family

DAVID WINNIE

But tragedy just makes me stronger

CELTIC MOVE BLEW AWAY

ABERDEEN moved swiftly to sign David Winnie — but he could have been playing for Celtic instead.

Billy McNeill asked St Mirren for permission to speak to the player last year — but Winnie's hopes of a Parkhead move were dashed.

He says: "St Mirren gave Celtic the OK to approach me, and I had a chat with chief scout John Kelman, but I never heard any more."

■ "There were one or two other clubs interested while I was at Love Street, but I was in the reserves after turning down new terms."

"Tony Fitzpatrick refused to play people in the first team who were on monthly contracts."

■ "And other clubs were understandably reluctant to splash out on someone playing reserve football."

"The result was that I played only one game for Saints last season — and that was only because injuries and suspensions left them short of players."

■ "In that game I tore the fibres in my thigh muscle, which put me on the treatment table for months."

DAVID WINNIE has watched his mum and dad die of cancer, but he insists: "My year of tragedy is over."

The 24-year-old Aberdeen full-back is only now emerging from the traumatic death of his mother Nina last summer as he bids to fill the boots of £970,000 Rangers capture David Robertson.

Winnie, who moved to Pittodrie in a £285,000 deal from St Mirren last November, nursed Nina through-out her battle against the disease — 12 years after cancer had also claimed the life of his dad Peter.

And Winnie declares: "There's nothing life can throw at me which will surprise me now."

Advice

"In the last 18 months I've experienced death, sadness, despair and the break-up of my family. I wouldn't wish that time on my worst enemy."

"My sister Elaine and I nursed Mum when she was having treatment. It was terribly traumatic for us."

"St Mirren boss Tony Fitzpatrick told me that when it was all over, I'd be a stronger person."

"At the time, I didn't know what he meant. But now I realise he was right. I'll always be grateful to him."

"There were times at the end of the 89-90 season that Tony left me out of the team because

he realised the strain I was under. He'd lost a young son to leukaemia and his mum had cancer the same time as mine, so he knew exactly what I was going through."

"Tony also took me aside after training on a few occasions just to chat. Not about football — but everything else under the sun."

However, Scottish Under-21 Winnie admits the worst moment came over Christmas last year — following his move from Love Street.

"I was living alone in a hotel and it really hit me hard," he says. "After Mum died and I moved to Aberdeen, there was nothing to keep my sister at home in Paisley — so she moved to Norwich, where my other sister lives."

"Being up here without a relative anywhere in Scotland really hit home. I was thoroughly miserable."

"It wasn't as if I had games to look forward to. I'd a torn thigh muscle when I signed and Aberdeen told me to take it easy until I was fully fit. In fact, I simply swapped treatment tables when I moved!"

"In the end I played only once last season — in a friendly against Gothenburg."

"Looking back in that time, I can't thank my Aberdeen teammate Alex McLeish enough for his help. He invited me to his home for meals just to get me out of the hotel."

Lucky

"And if there was ever anything I wanted, or things about Aberdeen I needed to know, he was always there with advice."

"He's a genuinely nice bloke and went a long way towards helping me settle in."

"Now that I know the

city, I've found it very much to my liking."

"Down in the West of Scotland the Rangers-Celtic thing is always part of football."

"In Aberdeen there's a much healthier approach to the game."

Now busy decorating a new home with girl-

to think I can be as successful at Aberdeen as he was."

"I knew when I joined I might have a long wait for a first-team place. After all, virtually the entire defence was made up of internationals."

"Now I'm here I believe there isn't a better

Says Aberdeen's

DAVID WINNIE

friend Debbie, Winnie can look forward to making a bid for a regular defensive spot.

Wait

"I don't feel under any pressure because I'm replacing a big-money man," he says.

"Robbo's a tremendous player, and a natural athlete to boot. I fully expect him to be in the international side before long. But I'd like

defence in Scotland than ours — and that includes Rangers'."

"Before we went to Bermuda in pre-season, manager Alex Smith told me the opportunity was there for me."

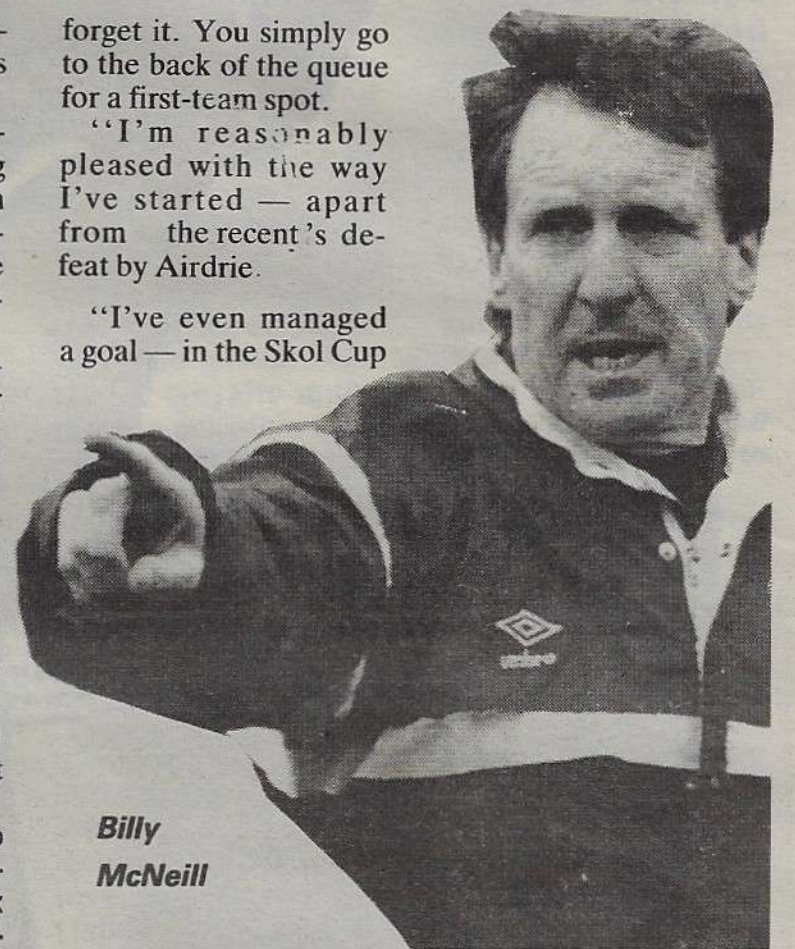
"That's all I wanted, I've been given a chance and I mean to make the most of it."

"I'll have to, because it's pretty clear that if you get injured or dropped at this club you can

forget it. You simply go to the back of the queue for a first-team spot."

"I'm reasonably pleased with the way I've started — apart from the recent's defeat by Airdrie."

"I've even managed a goal — in the Skol Cup



Billy McNeill

win over Clyde. It took me years to score my first for St Mirren!"

"But I'm looking no further forward than the next game. I've looked ahead in my life in the past and fallen flat on my face."

"I won't do it again."

BATTY SET FOR LEEDS

ENGLAND midfielder David Batty is ready to sign a new four year contract with Leeds United.

He said on Sunday: "I have everything I want at Leeds."

"Gary Speed had no hesitation when he was offered a four year contract."

"Like him I'd jump at it."

Batty added: "The supporters keep asking me if I'm going to Liverpool and I'm tired of telling them 'no'."

"I was born and brought up in Leeds and there's something very special about playing for your home town club."

"Especially now we're back in the First Division and look equipped to win something."

"The manager bought well in the summer so we reckon we can do even better than last season."

Premier League compromise

AN English Premier League looks certain to be in place next season after feuding clubs neared a compromise agreement.

"We are just a fingertip away from peace," Rick Parry, spokesman for the break-away First Division clubs said last week.

"It now looks certain there will be a Premier League next August and it will be set up with the almost full agreement of the existing League clubs."

All 22 First Division clubs have announced they will quit the 103 year old English Football League and form a

Premier League under rival Football Association control.

The plan has angered the 71 lower division clubs who fear bankruptcy as the elite take the lion's share of television rights.

The FA and Football League fought an unseemly legal battle before a High Court ruled in July that the FA was entitled to form a breakaway competition from next season.

The Football League was to appeal against the ruling in the hope of forcing the rebel clubs to at least serve out a statutory three-year notice period.

But an appeal appears unlikely now that a

majority of Second Division clubs have come round to the idea of a Premier League.

Non-First Division clubs still want strong guarantees from the FA regarding promotion and relegation and a clarification of the distribution of finances.

But, Bob Murray, chairman of Second Division Sunderland and one of the fiercest opponents of a Premier League, now virtually conceded defeat.

"It looks as if there will be a Premier League administered by the FA, but with promotion and relegation between the Football League," he says.

ACTION SPECIAL: ABSW — best in the world for soccer

★★★ STAR OF THE WEEK ★★★

Denis Wise
Chelsea and
England



Let Woods prove he is England's number one

CHRIS WOODS should be given the job of England's No.1 goalkeeper at Wembley this week.

It's surely time that Woods was accorded this status by his boss Graham Taylor, not only for the friendly against Germany, but for the more important thrust towards the finals of the European Championship in Sweden next summer.

That's no pang of sympathy for the man who was a patient and committed deputy for so long until Peter Shilton's retirement at the close of the World Cup.

It's more an assertion that he was unluckily deprived by Arsenal's David Seaman of a prolonged chance to make the position his own.

Woods has already had to overcome the worrying effects of a virus that threatened both his balance and his career with his last club, Rangers.

He performed most effectively in England's tour matches in Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia during the summer.

SHOCK

And he has had the strength of purpose to beat his shock rejection by Rangers and make a new life in the English First Division.

Given Seaman's uncertain start to Arsenal's defence of their title, Woods has every right to expect his name to be first on England's team sheet this week.

If he is chosen, he'll be trying to record England's third victory in 12 matches against the Germans since the 1966 World Cup final.

Taylor is in favour of the FA edicts that deprives him for disciplinary reasons of keeper Nigel Martyn, full-back Stuart Pearce and midfielder Steve McMahon.

But he says: "I am disappointed to be without so many injured players against the world champions."

Tony Dorigo, who went to the ends of the earth with England without getting a kick in Australia, must play for Pearce.

BONUS

Keith Curle, who broke his jaw before that tour began in earnest, may also find his pace required.

But I suspect Taylor's biggest bonus will be the availability of Trevor Steven, who was vastly admired by Taylor before Marseille confirmed his judgement to the tune of £5.5 million.

England are almost certain to field captain Gary Lineker and Alan Smith together as a strike force which confirmed its immense promise in their last match at Wembley against Argentina.

HERE'S introducing Heneage Dove, the old pig farmer who saved Graham Taylor's bacon.

Taylor's at Wembley this week, parading his England team against the world champions of Germany.

He has the top job in football and a big, shiny car to carry off his booty of £200,000 a year. And he's already in the record books as the only England boss to field 12 unbeaten teams.

But Taylor has never forgotten the man who gave him his first manager's job — and who then saved him from the sack.

Taylor admits: "If it hadn't been for Heneage Dove, I might well have been finished in football."

Dove is a 68-year-old retired pig farmer who often talked football with Taylor to the background sounds of oink-oink.

Now he spends his time tending his blooms, stocking his ponds with carp and breeding exotic parrots.

VOTE

And as president of Fourth Division Lincoln, watching the club that transformed Taylor from an indifferent full-back to a brilliant manager.

Dove says: "I felt Graham and I were like father and son. But he had a couple of pretty close shaves before he won a reputation for himself as a manager."

"The first was in actually getting the job. It was between him and a Lincoln centre-half called Terry Branston."

"The board was split down the middle and it went to the chairman's casting vote."

"I was only a director at the time, but I

I SAVED

How Farmer Dove gave England boss piggy-back to glory

did my best to make sure Graham got the job."

Taylor, a £50-a-week rookie manager with a Beagle cut, struggled to make an immediate impact. Lincoln failed to win any of their first nine games under him.

And the axe that might have consigned him to sporting obscurity was sharpened.

Taylor admits: "There I was the League's youngest manager at 28 with two children under six."

"Now if you want to talk about pressure, I guess that was it."

Dove recalls: "There was never a board meeting to discuss Graham's future, but he and I both know he was on the point of getting the sack."

"Graham had been thrown in at the deep end, probably before he should have been."

"And, yes, there was serious talk about his performance and our results behind the scenes."

"All I did at the time was make my own feelings known. I would not be a party to getting rid

of Graham.

"In fact, I wouldn't have stayed on the board if Graham had been sacked, and people knew that."

ple knew that.

"Graham was obviously worried, but I had seen him right from the start as my

protege. And, when I became chairman, Graham was already making a name for himself.

"He introduced, fostered and maintained a family atmosphere and he won us promotion to the Third Division in 1975/76 with a record 74 points."

"I know Graham thinks he might never have got another chance if he'd been sacked so quickly by Lincoln."

"But I'm not so sure. Somehow, qual-



CHRIS WADDLE

HERR TONIC FOR WALES

GERMANY won't lose at Wembley on Wednesday.

That's the emphatic forecast of Peter Shreeves — though he'll be delighted if he's got it wrong.

Shreeves, who has made a successful return to Spurs as team boss, is also right-hand man to Wales manager Terry Yorath. So he admits he has a vested interest in the Wembley result.

Wales are the only team to have beaten the Germans since they won the World Cup.

They won 1-0 in a European Championship qualifier at Cardiff Arms Park three months ago.

And a draw in Nuremberg next month will virtually guarantee the Welsh a place in the finals in Sweden.

"So I'll be delighted in England beat the Germans, dent their morale and give manager Berti Vogts doubts about his best line-up before they meet us," says Shreeves.

"Vogts is already

under pressure at home as he attempts to replace Franz Beckenbauer. So anything that makes his job harder must benefit Wales.

"But I have to be honest and say I can't



England can help us says Taffy Shreeves

see the Germans losing. I fancy that, because they will be missing several key players, they will set their stall out for a goalless draw. Technically, they are the best side in the world. Their passing ability is superb and their discipline and man-for-man marking could frustrate England.

"Mind you, Gary Lineker is used to being tightly marked and he has proved in two World Cups that he knows how to deal with it. He is England's greatest hope of snatching a winner."

"If he does, Gary will get a special pat on the back from me when he reports for training with Spurs. Vogts also has an unusual problem, because he has a wider choice of players since the reunification of Germany."

"He is trying to fit in a couple of midfielders from East Germany — Thomas Doll and Matthias Sammer."

They're both talented boys — but it isn't always easy to include two new players in a successful side. That could be in England's favour."

Shreeves believes that England will also be in cautious mood.

"So far Graham Taylor hasn't lost a

match, and I'm sure he will want to keep that record going."

"He will probably be satisfied with a draw, while at the same time hoping the crowd will lift his team and enable them to grab a victory."

"I still think that will be asking a lot unless the Germans make any errors at the back. And that doesn't happen very often. You have to earn everything you get." Neither Yorath nor Shreeves will be at Wembley. They'll be otherwise engaged because Wales have a prestige friendly fixture with Brazil at Arms Park.

Wales will be without injured Eric Young and Ian Rush and have their fingers crossed both will be fit in time for the big Nuremberg trial.

"Eric and Ian are two of our most important players, but at least the Brazil match will



give us the chance to try a few other options," explains Shreeves.

"It should be an entertaining game and since Wales have always been regarded as minnows on the international scene, just to be playing Brazil and Germany in successive matches is a bonus for all of us."

"I'm tipping Germany

and Wales for Wednesday wins, as a prelude to a real cracker when they meet head-on in five week's time."

It's 53 years since England last met a united Germany side, a 2-2 draw in Berlin in 1938 which inspired front-page headlines and questions in Parliament over something that happened even before a ball was kicked.

The England players, under orders from Downing Street, lined up and gave a Nazi salute. In those pre-TV days there was general disgust when the photo appeared in the next morning's papers.

ABSW — TOP OF THE WORLD

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH
SOCCER
WEEKLY

ON SALE CITY:
TUESDAY
COUNTRY:
WEDNESDAY

TAYLOR FROM THE SACK



GRAHAM TAYLOR

ities like his have a habit of showing themselves."

Taylor has picked a squad worth around £40 million for his first joust with a united Germany.

He can even afford to omit a £4 million player in Marseille's Chris Waddle.

Dove remembers Taylor settling for £4 as a home win bonus for his Lincoln team.

"I was hard with Graham," Dove added, "but he under-

stood why. I was determined to run a business that paid its way.

"Graham had to justify any spending, but I always told him he'd get a big contract one day, with a top team and be made for life."

Taylor later turned both Watford, of the Fourth Division, and Aston Villa, of the Second into First Division runners-up.

And Dove added: "I advised Graham to join Watford ahead of

West Bromwich, who also wanted him and were a First Division club.

"I could see Watford's potential with the backing of Elton John.

"And I was so sure Graham needed a bigger stage than Lincoln that I got him to sign a new contract with a clause guaranteeing us £20,000 compensation if he moved on.

"Elton paid up. Looking back, it should have been £100,000.

"I must admit I

didn't like it when Graham came back and took three of our best players with him to Watford.

"They did want to go, however, and we went into decline. We discovered that managers like Graham weren't too easy to find.

"The timing of Graham's moves has always been good. He may have wondered for a time about Villa, but Graham is able to handle most people in the game.

"If he does have any problems these days, it'll be with some players who seem to think they are gifts from God.

"But if any of them make things difficult for Graham, they will go before he does.

"Nothing is certain when you are taking on the world, but he should be England manager for 10 more years."

That's not bad for a guy who once feared he wouldn't last another 10 days at Lincoln.

ALL THE RESULTS FROM BRITAIN

BARCLAYS LGE — DIV 1

ARSENAL	1	COVENTRY	2
HT: 0-1	Att: 28,142	TOTTENHAM	0
AVILLA	0	Att: 22,090	
EVERTON	2	CPALACE	2
HT: 0-1	Att: 21,065	MANCITY	0
LEEDS	3	Att: 29,956	
HT: 2-0	Att: 37,289	NORWICH	0
MANUTD	3	Att: 44,946	
HT: 3-0	Att: 16,091	LIVERPOOL	2
NOTTSCO	1	Att: 15,064	
HT: 1-0	Att: 15,064	SHEFFUTD	1
OLDHAM	2	Att: 15,064	
HT: 2-0	Att: 15,064	SOTON	2
QPR	2	Att: 9,237	
HT: 0-1	Att: 9,237	NOTTMRST	1
SHEFFWED	2	Att: 37,289	
HT: 1-0	Att: 18,875	CHELSEA	1
WESTHAM	1	Att: 18,875	
HT: 0-0	Att: 3,231	LUTON	0
WIMBLEDON	3	Att: 3,231	
HT: 1-0			

DIVISION 2

BRISTOL	2	GRIMSBY	3
HT: 0-1	Att: 4,641	BARNLEY	1
DERBY	1	Att: 10,559	
HT: 1-0	Att: 12,732	SOUTHEND	0
IPSWICH	1	Att: 17,815	
HT: 0-0	Att: 17,815	BRISTOLC	1
LEICESTER	2	Att: 17,815	
HT: 2-1	Att: 6,332	CAMBRIDGE	2
MILLWALL	1	Att: 9,602	
HT: 1-1	Att: 7,168	CHARLTON	2
PLYMOUTH	0	Att: 7,168	
HT: 0-0	Att: 7,168	SWINDON	2
PVALE	2	Att: 7,168	
HT: 0-0	Att: 7,168	BRIGHTON	0
PORTSMITH	0	Att: 10,567	
SUNDERLAND	1	Att: 10,567	
HT: 1-1	Att: 10,567	BLACKBURN	1
TRANMERE	3	Att: 17,043	
HT: 1-2	Att: 11,465	NEWCASTLE	2
WATFORD	1	Att: 6,715	
HT: 0-2	Att: 6,715	MIDDLESBRO	2
WOLVES	3	Att: 6,715	
HT: 3-0	Att: 12,949	OXFORD	1

DIVISION 3

BOLTON	3	WESTBROM	0
HT: 1-0	Att: 7,960	BOURNMTH	1
CHESTER	0	Att: 1,112	
HT: 0-0	Att: 4,230	STOKE	1
DARLINGTON	0	Att: 4,230	
HT: 0-0	Att: 4,230	SWANSEA	0
FULHAM	3	Att: 3,426	
HT: 1-0	Att: 3,426	LORIENT	3
HARTLPL	2	Att: 3,661	
HT: 1-1	Att: 5,758	EXETER	0
HUDDERSFLD	0	Att: 3,679	
HT: 0-0	Att: 3,679	BURY	1
HULL	0	Att: 3,448	
HT: 0-1	Att: 4,160	BRADFORD	1
PETERBORD	0	Att: 4,160	
PRESTON	1	Att: 6,649	
HT: 0-0	Att: 6,649	BIRMINGHAM	1
READING	1	Att: 3,193	
HT: 1-1	Att: 3,193	BRENTFORD	0
SHREWSBRY	1	Att: 3,193	
HT: 0-0			

DIVISION 4

BURNLEY	1	CREWE	1
HT: 0-0	Att: 9,657	ROCHDALE	2
CARDIFF	1	Att: 4,029	
HT: 0-1	Att: 4,029	WREXHAM	1
DONCASTER	3	Att: 1,474	
HT: 1-0	Att: 1,474	SCARBORO	0
GILLINGHM	2	Att: 3,375	
HT: 0-0	Att: 2,629	BLACKPOOL	1
MANSFIELD	1	Att: 2,629	
HT: 1-0	Att: 2,629	DARNET	1
NORTHAMPTON	1	Att: 4,339	
HT: 1-0	Att: 4,339	HEREFORD	0
ROTHERHAM	0	Att: 3,778	
SCUNTHRPE	2	Att: 2,736	
HT: 0-0	Att: 2,736	MAIDSTONE	0
WALSALL	3	Att: 2,981	
HT: 1-0	Att: 2,981	CHESTERFLD	1
YORK	0	Att: 2,382	
HT: 0-1			

B & Q PREMIER

ABERDEEN	1	STJOHNSTNE	2
HT: 1-0	Att: 12,000	ROCHDALE	1
AIRDRIE	0	Att: 7,000	
HT: 0-0	Att: 7,000	ST MIRREN	0
CELTIC	0	Att: 21,323	
DUNDEE UTD	3	Att: 5,680	
HT: 1-0	Att: 5,680	DUNFRMLNE	0
FALKIRK	0	Att: 13,088	
HT: 0-1	Att: 13,088	RANGERS	2
HEARTS	2	Att: 9,033	
HT: 0-0	Att: 9,033	MOTHERWELL	0

GM VAUXHALL CONF

BARROW	2	BATH	0
BOSTON	3	CHELTNTHM	3
GATESHEAD	0	FARNBORO	2
MERTHYR	2	NORTHWICH	1
RUNCORN	0	KETERING	0
SLOUGH	0	TELFORD	3

STAFFORD	0	WYCOMBE	2
WELLING	2	ALTRNCHM	2
WITTON	2	COLCHSTER	2
YEOVIL	0	MACCLSFLD	1

DIVISION 1

AYR	1	PARTICK	3
CLYDEBANK	1	KILMARNOCK	1
HAMILTON	4	FORFAR	0
MONTROSE	2	MEADOWBANK	2
MORTON	3	DUNDEE	0
RAITH	1	STIRLING	0

DIVISION 2

ARBROATH	3	ESTIRLING	3
BERWICK	1	BRECHIN	1
COWDENBTH	1	ALBION	0
DUMFARMLN	0	CLYDE	0
QUEEN OF S	1	ALLOA	3
STENHOUSEM	2	EASTFIFE	1
STANBRAE	2	QUEEN'S PK	1

ALL YOUR TABLES FROM ENGLAND

ENGLISH 1ST DIV

	P	W	D	L	F	Apts
Manchester United	7	5	2	0	10	217
Liverpool	6	4	1	1	9	13
Manchester City	7	4	1	2	9	13
Leeds	6	3	3	0	12	412
Chelsea	7	3	3	1	13	1012
Coventry	7	3	3	1	12	710
Wimbledon	6	3	1	2	11	710
Sheffield Wednesday	6	3	1	2	12	910
Crystal Palace	7	3	1	1	8	610
Tottenham	7	3	1	1	3	111010
Oldham	7	3	1	1	3	8110
Notts County	7	3	0	4	12	1010
Nottingham Forest	7	2	2	3	8	98
Aston Villa	7	2	2	3	10	128
Arsenal	7	1	4	2	7	977
Norwich	7	1	4	2	7	977
West Ham	7	1	4	2	7	977
Everton	7	1	3	3	4	911
Southampton	7	1	3	3	4	911
Luton	7	1	3	3	4	911
Queen's Park Rangers	7	0	4	3	5	114
Sheffield United	7	0	2	5	6	132

ENGLISH 2ND DIV

	P	W	D	L	F	Apts
Middlesbrough	7	5	0	2	11	615
Leicester	5	4	1	0	8	213
Ipswich	5	4	1	1	11	1013
Cambridge	5	4	0	1	12	812
Bristol City	5	3	3	0	11	89
Tranmere	5	3	3	0	11	89
Port Vale	5	3	2	0	11	78
Swindon	5	3	2	0	11	78
Wolverhampton	5	3	2	0	11	78
Sunderland	5	3	2	0	11	78
Derby	5	3	2	0	11	78
Charlton	5	3	2	0	11	78
Portsmouth	5	3	2	0	11	78
Brighton	5	3	2	0	11	78
Southend	5	3	2	0	11	78
Grimby	5	3	2	0	11	78
Plymouth	5	3	2	0	11	78
Blackburn	5	3	2	0	11	78
Newcastle	5	3	2	0	11	78
Watford	5	3	2	0	11	78
Millwall	5	3	2	0	11	78
Bristol Rovers	5	3	2	0	11	78
Barnley	5	3	2	0	11	78
Oxford	5	3	2	0	11	78

ENGLISH 3RD DIV

	P	W	D	L	F	Apts
Stockport	5	4	1	0	15	513
Birmingham	5	4	1	0	8	413
Huddersfield	5	3	2	0	7	311
Shrewsbury	5	3	1	1	8	210
Bolton	5	3	1	1	8	210
West Bromwich	5	3	1	1	8	210
Stoke	5	3	1	1	8	210
Peterborough	5	3	1	1	8	210
Bury	5	3	1	1	8	210
Fulham	5	3	1	1	8	210
Hartlepool	5	3	1	1	8	210
Bournemouth	5	3	1	1	8	210
Chester	5	3	1	1	8	210
Bradford	5	3	1	1	8	210
Brentford	5	3	1	1	8	210
Reading	5	3	1	1	8	210
Darlington	5	3	1	1	8	210
Preston	5	3	1	1	8	210
Leyton Orient	5	3	1	1	8	210
Wigan	5	3	1	1	8	210
Hull	5	3	1	1	8	210
Exeter	5	3	1	1	8	210
Torquay	5	3	1	1	8	210
Swansea	5	3	1	1	8	210

ENGLISH 4TH DIV

	P	W	D	L	F	Apts
Crewe	5	3	2	0	15	711
Burnley	5	3	2	0	11	410
Barnet	5	3	2	0	11	410
Hereford	5	3	2	0	11	410
Blackpool	5	3	2	0	11	410
Rotherham	5	3	2	0	11	410
Rochdale	5	3	2	0	11	410
Mansfield	5	3	2	0	11	410
Northampton	5	3	2	0	11	410
Gillingham	5	3	2	0	11	410
Walsall	5	3	2	0	11	410
Scunthorpe	5	3	2	0	11	410
York	5	3	2	0	11	410
Chesterfield	5	3	2	0	11	410
Cardiff	5	3	2	0	11	410
Carlisle	5	3	2	0	11	410
Aldershot	5	3	2	0	11	410
Halifax	5	3	2	0	11	410
Doncaster	5	3	2	0	11	410
Lincoln	5	3	2	0	11	410
Scarborough	5	3	2	0	11	410
Wrexham	5	3	2	0	11	410
Maidstone	5	3	2	0	11	410

... AND HOW THEY STAND IN SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	Apts
Hearts	6	5	1	0	16	311
Rangers	6	4	2	0	9	310
Hibernian	6	4	1	1	8	39
Aberdeen	6	4	1	1	8	39
Celtic	6	3	1	2	11	87
Dundee United	6	2	2	2	11	76
Motherwell	6	2	2	2	4	66
Falkirk	6	1	2	3	5	104
St Johnstone	6	1	2	3	4	114
Airdrieonians	6	1	0	5	7	112
St Mirren	6	0	2	4	3	112
Dunfermline	6	0	1	5	2	151

SCOTTISH 1ST DIV

	P	W	D	L	F	Apts
Dundee	6	5	0	1	14	810
Ayr	6	4	1	1	12	79



HAPPY HEARTS

HEARTS jumped to the top of the Premier League as their strike force once again proved too hot to handle for Motherwell.

And boss Joe Jordan paid tribute to the goal skills of Scott Crabbe afterwards.

He said: "He's played consistently well this season and his goals have come as a reward for his hard work."

Crabbe could have had a hat-trick. Apart from his goal he saw two thunderbolts rebound from the woodwork.

Failed

The Tynecastle men won comfortably, but Motherwell boss Tom-

Joe's men shoot to top of the pack

HEARTS 2 MOTHERWELL 0

my McLean insisted: "There wasn't much between the teams and I'm disappointed we didn't get a point."

"Their second goal was against the run of play and that finished us off."

Motherwell have failed to beat Hearts in their last 12 meetings.

Hearts started well with Crabbe flashing the warning signals with a right-foot shot in the third minute.

Baird should have opened the scoring

shortly afterwards but he failed to make proper contact with a pinpoint Mackay cross.

Crabbe's first duel with the woodwork came in the 18th minute when his 25-yard shot hit the bar.

But although Hearts had territorial advantage they struggled to create a clear opening until the second half.

Baird headed over the bar before Crabbe broke the deadlock.

He latched onto a glorious pass from Baird and tucked the

ball past Billy Thomson.

Header

Motherwell did not lie down and Kirk was unlucky to see his 25-yard drive come back off the post into Smith's arms.

Hearts' strikers continued to cause problems and Thomson did well to hold a Baird header.

The big striker got his reward in 79 minutes when he placed his shot into the top corner.

BEST PLAYER: Crabbe.
HEARTS: Smith, Hogg, McKinlay, Levein, MacKay, McPherson, Crabbe, Ferguson, Baird, Millar, Robertson.

MOTHERWELL: Thomson, Philliben, Mijholt, Griffin, Maaskant, McCart, Kirk, O'Donnell, McGrillen, Angus, Cooper.



Owen Coyle: Airdrie

Weir wings in as high-flying Hibs soar on

AIRDRIE 0 HIBS 1

HIBS boss Alex Miller watched his side retain their unbeaten record then predicted: "The best has yet to come."

Delighted Miller praised his team's battling performance which takes them to joint second top spot.

"We showed plenty of character and are gaining in confidence with every game."

"I can promise the fans there's a lot better still to come from us."

A super strike by exciting winger Mickey Weir four minutes after the interval settled the issue. Weir capped a fine performance by calmly slotting home from 12 yards after a defence-splitting pass by Mark McGraw.

It was Weir who almost broke the first half deadlock with a solo run through the Airdrie defence only to see his effort scrambled to

safety by John Martin.

But overall it was a disappointing display from both Skol Cup semi-finalists, neither of whom could conjure up the same magic as in midweek.

Airdrie, with substitutes Graham Harvey and Davie Kirkwood on for Owen Coyle and Paul Jack, produced a battling finish but John Burridge remained cool under pressure.

BEST PLAYER: Weir.
AIRDRIE: Martin, Kidd, Stewart, Sandison, Watson, Honor, Lawrence, Balfour, Coyle, Boyle, Jack.

HIBS: Burridge, Milne, Mitchell, Hunter, McIntyre, MacLeod, Weir, Hamilton, Wright, McGraw, McGinley.

GREAT SCOTT

FALKIRK 0 RANGERS 2

SCOTT NISBET confirmed his status as current Ibrox cult hero with the goal that set Rangers on the road to victory.

Stand-out stand-in Nisbet even managed to put £2m Soviet debutant Alexei Mikhailichenko in the shade.

But the Soviet star brought the terraces to life with one stunning first half effort.

He picked up an Ian Ferguson pass on the half-way line, spotted Ian Westwater off his line and fired a left footer for goal.

Torrid

Westwater hurriedly back-pedalled and watched helplessly as the ball dipped just over.

However, the Ukrainian, obviously short of match practice, faded in a torrid opening to the second half and was replaced by Stuart McCall after an hour.

But he watched from the dugout as Pieter Huistra celebrated his call-up to the Dutch international squad with the clinching goal 11 minutes from time.

And boss Walter Smith said: "Alexei did what we expected him to do."

"It was always going

Hero Nisbet a nightmare for Falkirk

to take a player of his type a while to fit in with the rough and tumble of our game.

Vital

"It wasn't the best we've played this season but after the tough games at Parkhead and Tynecastle it was always going to be hard to hit that standard."

Falkirk boss Jim Jefferies agreed: "The players said the Soviet was difficult to play against, and that shot at goal showed the vision he has."

"We have now played the top three teams in the country and there's no doubt Rangers are the best of them."

Falkirk made light of losing an early goal and enjoyed the bulk of second-half possession.

But their second-half show was in stark contrast to the hammering they took before the interval.

And when Nisbet drove in a mis-hit Huistra shot to put Rangers

ahead, a drubbing look on the cards.

Strike

But although Eddie May kicked a net-bound Mark Hateley header off the line, Falkirk weathered the storm.

They almost levelled the match when Simon Stainrod turned and fired in a great drive which flashed across Goram's goal with the Scotland keeper gasping.

But Rangers' response was to kill off Falkirk's hopes with a super Huistra strike.

The Dutchman picked up a Hateley knock down and curled a left footer out of Westwater's reach from 20 yards.

BEST PLAYER: Hateley.

FALKIRK: Westwater, Duffy, McQueen, Hughes, Baptie, May, McAllister, McGivern, Stainrod, Smith.

RANGERS: Goram, Stevens, Robertson, Gough, Spackman, Nisbet, McCoist, Ferguson, Hateley, Mikhailichenko, Huistra. Subs: McCall, Johnston.



Gary Stevens: Glasgow Rangers

SO SWEET AS UNITED SINK PARS

DUNDEE UTD 3 DUNFERMLINE 0

DUNDEE UNITED gained sweet revenge after being dumped out of the Skol Cup by the Fifers.

And Pars boss Iain Munro slammed his team: "My players simply cannot pick and choose when they want to perform."

This was United's best display of the season.

The breakthrough came in 33 minutes when McKinlay and Bowman combined for the latter to fire a 20-yarder into Rhodes' postage stamp corner.

The home side clinched matters in 74 minutes through a Freedy Van der Hoorn volley which deflected off Davie Moyes.

BEST PLAYER: McKinlay.

DUNDEE UTD: Main, Clark, Malpas, Bowman, Van der Hoorn, Narey, McLaren, McKinlay, French, Ferguson, Bolland.

DUNFERMLINE: Rhodes, Wilson, Cunningham, McCathie, Moyes, Williamson, Davies, O'Boyle, McParland, Sinclair, Kozma.

ABSW BEST FOR SOCCER ACTION



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FED-UP FANS BOO LIAM BRADY

CELTIC 0 ST MIRREN 0

LIAM Brady felt the full fury of the Celtic fans for the first time after a rock-bottom performance — and said he could not blame them.

The supporters stayed behind to vent their anger as the Celts' slump continued against strugglers Saints.

Goal-shy Celtic, who haven't scored for five hours, missed a barrow-load of chances.

Brady admitted: "It's natural the fans are disappointed.

"Playing St Mirren, they'd expect us to win and they'd also expect to see better football.

"What we've got to win back is our confidence and players believing in themselves.

"I told the players it was a poor performance but I'd counted six good chances which went abegging.

"I was also looking for something from our more experienced players."

Brady drafted in youngsters Mark McNally, Steve Fulton, Gerry Creaney and Brian O'Neill in a bid to polish up his side.

Glaring

And he insisted he will stand by his kids.

"Getting the players I want would need big money. That's why I've decided to go along the road of a young team.

"From time to time we risk getting poor performances but it's a case of perseverance."

From Mike Gallo-way's glaring 10th-minute miss onwards it was a tale of woe for Celtic.

Dariusz Wdowczyk, Tony Cascarino, Joe Miller, Gary Gillespie and Andy Walker shared the blame for the ones that got away.

Saints keeper Les Fridge made some good saves. But he must have been relieved at having such an easy afternoon.

Davie Hay, sacked by Celtic four years ago, made a happy re-

turn as St Mirren boss and was full of praise for his skipper, ex-Parkhead star Roy Aitken.

The former Scotland star, who cost £150,000 from Newcastle, blunted Celtic's attack. He stood shoulder to shoulder with another one-time Parkhead stalwart, Lex Baillie.

Delighted Davie said: "Roy's been our best man in every game. He's been a snip at that price."

He had a dig at the directors, saying: "If I'd been able to buy the players I wanted during the summer we could have come away with both points."

Saints' pin-up Chic Charnley, a Celtic fan, troubled Pat Bonner with a couple of shots.

And he let everyone know he was upset when he was subbed with only three minutes to go.

Hay observed shyly, "He didn't know whether to go into the Jungle or the dressing room!"

BEST PLAYER: Roy Aitken.



Paul McStay in action for Scotland.

FLOORED DONS

SHOCKED Aberdeen boss Alex Smith blasted his fallen heroes after this Pittodrie disaster.

The league leaders were knocked off their perch by a stunning performance from 10-man Saints.

"The last 48 minutes were probably as bad a performance as I've ever seen Aberdeen have," said angry Smith.

"Saints worked very hard to get what they deserved — and we got what we deserved.

"We lost a terribly slack equaliser — a shocker. And the second wasn't any better."

The Perth side were reduced to 10 men after

Saints' 10 men knock leaders off their perch

ABERDEEN 1 ST JOHNSTONE 2

John Davies was sent off in 35 minutes for a second bookable offence.

He complained to referee George Smith that a Peter Van de Ven tackle on him should have brought a penalty.

Davies will be disciplined by the club, but Alex Totten claimed: "I thought it was a penalty — but the player knows the score."

At that stage Saints were trailing to a Peter Van de Ven goal and there appeared no way back.

Jubilant Saints boss Alex Totten added: "When I was at Ibrox a certain individual used to talk about character all the time.

"Well we showed that today.

"We scored two great goals and could have scored more.

"The players think this was a better performance than the 5-0 win last season.

"We were due a break but how many teams will come here and win?"

"We have ten heroes out there — it wasn't a day for singling anyone out."

There was no sign of the upset to come when Van de Ven put the Dons ahead with a superb 29th minute drive after Paul Mason touched on a Stewart McKimmie pass.

But the Dons were caught out in 13 minutes of madness at the start of the second half.

First Harry Curran ghosted in behind a flat-footed defence to side foot a Mark Treanor cross past Theo Snel-

ders. Worse was to come for the home side in 57 minutes.

Ian Redford was given the freedom of Pittodrie to head a Curran cross into the corner of the net from just eight yards out.

The stunned league leaders threw on Willem Van der Ark and Theo ten Catt for Paul Mason and Stephen Wright — but still Saints looked likelier to score.

BEST PLAYER: Redford.

ABERDEEN: Snelders, Wright, Winnie, Van de Ven, Grant, Irvine, McKimmie, Mason, Bett, Booth, Connor, Gillhaus.

ST JOHNSTONE: Hamilton, Treanor, Baltacha, McGinnis, Inglis, Davies, Mashrey, Turner, Wright, Redford, Curran.

Five off
as refs
again hit
red alert

REFS in Scotland had a red-card day — again!

■ Five players were sent packing last weekend, bringing the total to 28 in the first five weeks of the season. All got the red card in the first half.

John Davies, of St Johnstone, was ordered off for a second bookable offence while his side were a goal down at Pittodrie — but the 10 men went on to shock the Dons 2-1.

■ Dundee's John McQuillan was off for a professional foul as his side slumped 3-0 against Morton at Cappielow.

Meadowbank's Stewart Williamson ruined his side's reputation for fair play when he was red-carded for dissent after 28 minutes against Montrose.

Desperate

In Division Two, Arbroath's Graeme Carlin and East Stirling's Danny Diver were sent off at Gayfield for fighting.

■ **HAMILTON ACCIES** are after Partick Thistle midfielder Bobby Law.

And the Douglas Park club are inviting youth clubs and schools to apply for free tickets for the home game against Clydebank on September 21.

JOHN COOK, chairman of Stenhousemuir for the past 13 years, has resigned. Cook, on the Ochilview board for 37 years, is succeeded by Greg Thomson.

■ **WOMEN** are making inroads! The Scottish Sports Council will appoint Sheila Begbie as Team Sport co-ordinator for women's football — based at the SFA headquarters.

MANCHESTER UNITED winger Rodney Wallace is set for a Cup Final appearance in May.

The Old Trafford man will finish a Football Against MS sponsored walk at half-time in the Scottish Cup final.

■ But he said: "If United are in the FA Cup Final at Wembley I'd hope to be involved there."

SUPER SOCCER LEADERS ALL YEAR ROUND

Nelson tops on his old patch

PLYMOUTH 0
CHARLTON 2

FORMER Plymouth winger Gary Nelson returned to his old stamping ground to torment his old team.

He looked a certain scorer when pulled down to win a penalty — converted by Darren Pitcher in the 50th minute — then bobbed up in the 74th to head home the clinching goal.

And Plymouth were lucky not to be well behind by then.

Charlton, more adventurous and assured, played all the good football and had the home defence at full strength.

In fact, the first real opening did not come until the 23rd minute and then reserve keeper David Walter made a superb reflex save from Robert Lee.

That sparked Plymouth into action and Bob Bolder went full stretch to keep out a delicate close-range header from Robbie Turner.

Then the keeper did well to scramble away a long-range effort from Michael Evans.

Scramble

But it was Charlton who maintained the upper hand. Paul Bacon looked a certain scorer as he ran through the middle but a desperate late tackle by Adrian Burrows and a dive by Walter kept him out.

There was a fantastic scramble in the Plymouth goal just before the break when Nelson hit the foot of a post and the ball sailed across an open goal before being cleared.

Charlton got the lead they deserved when Nelson was pulled down by Plymouth skipper Nicky Marker and Pitcher stepped up to hammer the ball into the roof of the net.

And it was no surprise when Nelson darted in to settle things following a long throw-in from Carl Leaburn.

BEST PLAYER: Nelson.

PLYMOUTH: Walter, Clement, Spearing, Marker, Burrows, Morgan, Barlow, Marshall, Turner, Morrison, Evans.

CHARLTON: Bolder, Pitcher, Minto, Peake, Griff, Gating, Lee, Bacon, Leaburn, Nelson, Walsh.



PETER REID

LEEDS 3
MAN CITY 0

PETER Reid won't forget Leeds in a hurry.

City's supremo began his management career against them with a defeat last November.

And last weekend, Howard Wilkinson's men brought his side's flying start to a shuddering halt.

All his misery was wrapped up in one 12-minute second half spell.

WILKO AND OUT FOR CITY SLICKER

After 68 minutes, he had the chance to put City back into the game. But he slammed a penalty against the post and then had his successful rebound chalked off because no-one else touched it.

Then, 10 minutes from time, his pass was blocked by David Batty, who found Steve Hodge and he was pulled down in the box by

Steve Redmond.

Gordon Strachan scored his fourth penalty of the season to secure full points.

But if it was a bad day for Reid it was a great one for England men Batty and Tony Dorigo.

Batty could hardly believe his eyes when he scored the second goal after 35 minutes. It was his first in 161

games.

The last? That was against City at Maine Road on Boxing Day 1987.

As for Dorigo, he warmed up for the Germans by opening the scoring with a 25-yard blast for his first United goal.

BEST PLAYER: Batty.
LEEDS: Lukic, Sterland, Dorigo, Batty, McClelland, Whyte, Strachan, Rod Wallace, Chapman, McAllister, Speed.
MAN CITY: Coton, Hill, Pointon, Reid, Curle, Redmond, White, Brightwell, Quinn, Megson, Brennan.

MARK ON THE SPOT!

NOTTS CO 1 LIVERPOOL 2

LIVERPOOL showed their championship mettle in smashing their first away win of the season in a dramatic finale at Meadow Lane.

The handicap of being without so many of their first team squad looked like catching up with the visitors after Tommy Johnson had fired newly promoted County into a 43rd minute lead with his

Sean's too hot for Stew

CHESTER 0 BOURNEMOUTH 1

CHESTER crashed after conceding their first home goal of the season.

But they could have few complaints after Sean O'Driscoll nicked it for the South Coast side after 13 minutes.

Bournemouth substitute George Lawrence caught out the Chester defence and O'Driscoll's half-hit shot went under the body of keeper Billy Stewart.

Veteran Jimmy Case and Andy Jones both went close to adding a second in the closing stages. A shot from Case screamed over the bar and an effort from Jones was tipped over by Stewart.

The first half was a struggle for Chester with Bournemouth's tall defenders Alex Watson and Mark Morris containing strikers Stuart Rimmer and Neil Morton.

But Chester had been unlucky in the third minute when Rimmer had a shot kicked of the line and winger Brian Croft hit the bar.

fourth goal in four games.

But the introduction of Ronnie Rosenthal as a 73rd minute substitute for Steve Harkness proved a master stroke by manager Graeme Souness.

The Israeli international hooked home Liverpool's equaliser in the 70th minute and then created their winning goal two minutes from time when he was brought down in the penalty area to give Mark Walters the chance to fire home their winner from the penalty spot.

Liverpool were missing 10 of their senior squad, including the suspended Steve McMahon, whose place in midfield went to Harkness, making only his second full appearance.

But Liverpool, however, almost surged in front after only four minutes. Steve McManaman swerved inside Dean Yates as he set off on a 40-yard burst through the home defence, slipping his shot past the advancing Steve Cherry but just wide of the far post.

Another chance went begging in the seventh minute as Ray Houghton mispickled in front of goal after being set up by McManaman.

But newly-promoted County hit back impressively, Dean Thomas flashing a 20-yarder just a foot wide of

Grobelaar's left-hand upright.

Then, from Draper's quickly-taken free kick in the 16th minute, Liverpool were found wanting as Kevin Bartlett got in first to volley just wide.

The warning was to go unheeded four minutes later as Bartlett was allowed the space to turn and thump a fierce fight-footed effort against the upright.

Liverpool had Gary Ablett booked in the 26th minute for fouling both Draper and Johnson.

But just when they were looking like reasserting their early authority, following two good strikes from Dean Saunders and Mark Walters, they fell behind in the 43rd minute.

Tommy Johnson, fed by Draper's free kick, cut inside, and his swerving shot wrong-footed Grobelaar as it flew into the far corner.

Liverpool stepped up a gear in the second half. Paris was on hand to clear his lines when Cherry couldn't hold a powerful 25 yard effort from Burrows.

Then Marsh headed straight at the County keeper from Walter's free kick.

NOTTS CO: Cherry, Palmer, Paris, Short, Yates, Draper, Thomson, Dryden, Bartlett, Johnson.

LIVERPOOL: Grobelaar, Ablett, Burrows, Nicol, Marsh, Tanner, Saunders, Houghton, McManaman, Walters, Harkness.



Israeli star striker Ronnie Rosenthal proved a super-sub to lift under-strength Liverpool to an impressive away win at Notts County

MILLER RIGHT

HUDDERSFIELD 0
EXETER 0

KEEPER Kevin Miller laid on a superb one man show as City landed their first away point.

City were torn apart in the last 15 minutes but Miller stood firm.

First, he dived bravely at Gary Barnett's feet, then stopped a powerful Kevin Donovan shot with his feet and tipped an angled Kieren O'Reagan drive.

And with two minutes to go, Miller saved on the line from Graham Mitchell.

FULHAM 3
SWANSEA 0

SWANSEA were dragged to the bottom of the Third Division river bed by a hungry Pike.

Fulham's Martin Pike scored either side of the break to leave Frank Burrows' side without a league win since April.

And Gary Brazil completed the Swans' misery two minutes from time after yet another defensive shambles.

Only a fine save from on-loan keeper Roger Freestone denied Pike a free-kick.

CARDIFF CITY 1
ROCHDALE 2

CARDIFF threw the game away 30 seconds from time when defender Alan Reeves scored with a powerful header.

Coach Eddie May has a huge goal-scoring problem on his hands.

They wasted a hatfull of chances. Rochdale's John Ryan showed them how to do it four minutes before the break.

Chris Pike eventually equalised in the 64th minute. But then City lost that late goal.

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LEEDS

ARSENAL 1
COVENTRY 2

ARSENAL's latest debacle began with England internationals Lee Dixon and David Seaman combining for one of the soppiest of own goals — after only 57 seconds.

Full-back Dixon chipped over advancing keeper Seaman.

Coventry, led by keeper Steve Ogriovic, defiantly defended their shock lead until £10,000 Zimbabwean Peter Ndlovu scored with five minutes left.

Arsenal skipper Tony Adams blasted a consolation goal.



Tony Adams

Plum, Paul

LEICESTER 2
BRISTOL C 1

CITY were unlucky to leave pointless after dominating much of the Second Division match of the day.

Until last weekend both sides were unbeaten and the crowd of almost 18,000 was Leicester's biggest of the season.

They saw a thriller.

The unfortunate Reds had much the better of a tense second half but couldn't find a way through a superbly marshalled Leicester defence.

FITZPATRICK FINDS WAY TO BREAK DOWN BRISTOL

It was former Bristol man Paul Fitzpatrick who sunk City with a first half strike after City had equalised just one minute before.

For Leicester's opener, Colin Gibson was allowed to advance and hit a superb strike from 30 yards which Keith Welch could only parry into the net.

In the 36th minute Nicky Morgan appeared from nowhere at the near post to tap home a cross from former Lei-

cester man Dave Rennie.

But a minute later Bristol failed to clear a Tommy Wright corner and Fitzpatrick fired in from close range.

It was the giant defender's second goal in two games.

Bristol dominated most of the second half but were unable to find a way through the over-worked home defence.

Dave Smith ran from almost the halfway line only to see his rising

drive beaten out for a corner by the impressive Kevin Poole in the Leicester goal.

There was five minutes of injury time and the home fans were screaming for the final whistle as Bristol swarmed around the Leicester goal but were unable to conjure up an equaliser.

BEST PLAYER: Allison.

LEICESTER: Poole, Mills, Platnauer, Fitzpatrick, Walsh, James, Oldfield, Gibson, Wright, Kelly, Kitson.

BRISTOL CITY: Welch, May, Scott, Edwards, Bryant, Aizlewood, Bent, Rennie, Allison, Morgan, Smith.

BEST BOY

Giggs is the new George

MAN UTD 3 NORWICH 0

MANCHESTER UNITED's 17-year-old Ryan Giggs showed just why he is fast emerging as the great talent in English football.

He has had only a handful of first-team games as manager Alex Ferguson nurtures the most talented youngster since the days of George Best.

But, already, the likeness to Bestie is uncanny... the skill, the rapid change of pace and the bravery.

And Norwich copped the lot, with kid Giggs grabbing a superb goal as United cruised to a comfortable win that keeps them marching ahead of the First Division.

Norwich's pretty football posed such little threat to United that, after scoring three goals in eight sensational minutes, they could afford the luxury of easing off in the second-half.

Yet Welsh wonder Giggs still showed touches that set him apart from everyone else.

Crashed

One glorious overhead pass set Brian McClair away and then the teenager's electric pace took him clear of the Norwich defence.

His cross was cleared but it could not hide the majesty of the build-up.

It was Bryan Robson — who else — who set United on the road to this latest success after 20 minutes when his free-kick was touched on to Neil Webb.

His shot was kicked away by Norwich keeper Bryan Gunn only for Denis Irwin to lash it home through a crowd of players into the corner of the net.

United went further ahead as Mark Hughes slipped a short pass into the path of McClair and he crashed the ball into the back of the net before Gunn could move.

And, in the 28th minute, a dreadful back-pass from Paul Blades let in Giggs.

He went round Gunn and, from an outrageously crazy angle, coolly flicked in No.3.

BEST PLAYER: Giggs.
MAN UTD: Schmeichel, Parker, Irwin, Bruce, Webb, Pallister, Robson, Kanchelskis, McClair, Hughes, Giggs.

NORWICH: Gunn, Culverhouse, Bowen, Butterworth, Blades, Crook, Gordon, Fleck, Newman, Beckford, Phillips.



Brian McClair: got good service from wonder Welshman Ryan Giggs.

Martin Foyles Swindon

PORT VALE 2 SWINDON TOWN 2

MARTIN FOYLE's late goal denied Swindon victory in an action-packed encounter at Vale Park.

Town must have thought they had wrapped up the game with an 82nd minute strike by Ross McLaren but Foyle pounced to level in the 87th minute.

Vale enjoyed the better of the early sparring, but Town almost scored in their first attack with Neil Aspin making a last ditch tackle to deny Duncan Shearer.

Superb

Swindon then began to find holes in Vale's defence and the dangerous Shearer shot a foot wide after turning smartly onto a ninth minute pass from Micky Hazard.

Steve White and Hazard both had shots charged down close to goal.

Skipper Ray Walker finally gave the home fans something to cheer on 34 minutes when his thunderous 30 yard shot struck the angle of post and bar.

The deadlock was finally broken after 55 minutes following a superb pass by Town player-manager Glenn Hoddle.

Hoddle hoisted the ball fully 50 yards onto Shearer's head and the on-rushing White pounced on the striker's knockdown to power in a 12 yard shot.

Vale equalised on 68 minutes with an opportunist effort from record signing Foyle.

Van der Laan's 25 yard strike was tipped onto the post by Hammond, but Foyle was onto the rebound in a flash and directed a shot into the corner of the net.

Shearer was again the provider when

Swindon retook the lead on 82 minutes.

He side-footed the ball into the path of McLaren, who planned a firm shot past Grew from 15 yards.

Touch

Vale equalised when John Jeffers' cross found the head of substitute Peter Swan and Foyle applied the finishing touch on the goal line.

BEST PLAYER: Hazard.

VALE: Grew, Mills, Hughes, Walker, Aspin, Glover, Van Der Laan, Houchen, Foyle, Jeffers.

SWINDON: Hammond, Jones, Viveash, Hoddle, Calderwood, Taylor, Hazard, Shearer, Simpson, McLaren, White.

GRIM STUNNER

BOTTLE JOB

☆ *ODDEST booking of the season? It must have been Carlton Palmer's, at Hillsborough last weekend.*

The Sheffield Wednesday midfielder, taking an 81st-minute drink near the touch-line, didn't hear ref Alan Wilkie blow to restart the game.

He ditched the bottle to dispossess Forest's Stuart Pearce — and was booked in the next break in play.

BRISTOL R 2 GRIMSBY 3

ROVERS manager Martin Dobson saw his problems pile up as Grimsby grabbed a last-minute winner.

The home side looked to have saved the game with a 61st minute strike from non-League summer signing Richard Evans.

But Grimsby claimed all three points with the very last kick of the match from David Gil-

bert after Mark Smith had hit the bar.

It leaves Dobson without a win in his first five games in charge of the West County club.

The visitors went ahead through a 39th minute strike from Kevin Jobling, scoring his first goal in nearly two years for the club.

But big Devon White put Rovers level 10 minutes after the re-start with a stunning diving header after good work on the right wing from recalled right-back Ian Alexander.

Grimsby bounced back in front, however, two minutes later when Murray Jones, formerly with neighbours Bristol City, capitalised on Rovers' slack defending with an unstoppable drive into the far corner from the edge of the penalty area.

Rovers replied just three minutes later through Evans, who banged in a close-range effort at the second attempt after being put

through by Andy Reece.

Rovers appeared to be heading towards their third draw of the campaign until Gilbert struck at the death.

BEST PLAYER: Gilbert.
BRISTOL ROVERS: Parkin, Alexander, Twentymann, Yates, Boothroyd, Evans, Skinner, Reece, White, Stewart, Purnell.

GRIMSBY: Sherwood, McDermott, Jobling, Fletcher, Lever, Dobbin, Watson, Gilbert, Jones, Agnew, Woods.

★ The B-I-G action pages ★

Here we go with the BIG stories

£1 m KENNY

KENNY DALGLISH will cost Blackburn £1 million-plus if he says "yes" to the manager's job.

Our back page exclusive last week had soccer — and our so-called

rivals reeling.

That's ABSW best for good news.

But the bad news for Blackburn is that Liverpool are sure to insist on £500,000 compensation.

That's what they paid

for Graeme Souness's contract when Dalglish walked out.

And it will take the same amount again to cover a basic two-year deal for Dalglish to replace sacked Don Mackay.

Rovers' millionaire backer Jack Walker will happily fork out.

He confirmed our story saying: "I will be putting Kenny's name forward."

"I only want the best for this club."

Now Blackburn wait to see if Dalglish is ready to end his six-month separation from the game to overlord Rovers' return to the big-time.

The Liverpool legend is making up his

mind on a golfing holiday in Monaco.

Arsenal get the blues

☆ ARSENAL are being scorched in the long, hot summer.

The champions melted 2-1 to Coventry — their first league defeat at High-bury in 17 months.

It's their third First Division setback this season.

England defender Lee Dixon smacked an outrageous 35-metre own goal in the first minute and Zimbabwean substitute Peter Ndlovu turned the air blue as well with an 85th minute clincher.

Meanwhile at Notts County, a Mark Walters penalty two minutes from time gave Liverpool a 2-1 victory.

Manchester United are enjoying the weather.

They stay top after a sweat free 3-0 crushing of Norwich.

FIX IT JIMMY!

LIVERPOOL reject Jim Magilton is wanted to revive Everton.

Howard Kendall has moved in for the £700,000 rated Oxford midfielder.

And, the cash-strapped Second Division club will be forced to accept any reasonable offer for the 22-year-old.

Belfast boy Magilton was at Anfield five years without getting a first-team chance.

But it was a surprise when Kenny Dalglish let him go to Oxford for just £100,000 almost 12 months ago.

Now it will cost Everton seven times as much to take him back to Merseyside.

Magilton is expected to win his fourth cap in Northern Ireland's European Championship match against Faroes this week.

Goodison boss Kendall is desperate to bring in new blood as his season threatens to turn sour.

At the weekend he dumped £4 million worth of talent into the 'A' team because he was so disenchanted with them in the reserve game defeat at Manchester City.

Meanwhile, Ipswich expect to sign Everton defender Eddie Youds on loan with a view to a permanent deal.

Liverpool born Youds, 21, is unsettled after failing to win a regular first-team spot.

TARGET HOUGHTON

Celtic line up McGrath for £2m double

GLASGOW CELTIC are lining up a sensational double swoop for Paul McGrath and Ray Houghton.

Boss Liam Brady sees the Irish superstars as the men to help him put Parkhead back on top of the heap.

Each would cost him around £1 million but

Brady won't be shy about that.

He's already laid out £2 million-plus for Tony Cascarino and Gary Gillespie, but his brief is to get Celtic out of Rangers shadow, and he'll keep spending until he does it.

Sensation

McGrath's career nosedived when he was kicked out of Manchester United by Alex

Ferguson. But Graham Taylor resurrected the centre back's career at Aston Villa.

He was one of the sensations of the Republic of Ireland's World Cup exploits in Italy and is expected to win his 48th cap in Wednesday's friendly with Hungary.

Villa boss Ron Atkinson won't want him to go, but a £1 million offer would tempt him

into a rethink over the 31-year old.

Liverpool midfielder Houghton was another star of Jack Charlton's Italia 90 sensations.

And Graeme Souness will want to keep him, at least until his injury crisis eases.

But the Anfield boss also needs cash to go on rebuilding and the priority is signing quality English players for the return to Europe.



PARKER ROW

PAUL PARKER goes into England's match against Germany this week at the centre of a Euro legal row following his £1.7m move to Manchester United.

The 27 year old defender, in Graham Taylor's squad for Wednesday's date, is being sued by Swiss based company Direct Sponsorship for alleged breach of contract.

Parker has responded with a counterclaim against DS arguing loss of income through lack of interest in his affairs.

This relates to publicity and sponsorship.

DISPUTE

The row is a direct result of Parker's transfer from QPR last month.

DS claim they were contracted to act for Parker in talks.

Instead, Parker's adviser was his Leeds based agent Neil Ramsey, who confirmed the legal dispute.

Both parties are seeking substantial damages.

SOUTHAMPTON striker Paul Rideout is

Agents sue over £1.7m United move

wanted by First Division newcomers Notts County.

They have bid £250,000 and Saints may be forced to offset the £480,000 they paid West Ham for Iain Dowie.

NEWCASTLE boss Ossie Ardiles will decide this week whether to move for Manchester City keeper Andy Dibble.

United's under-fire keeper, Pavel Srnicek was given another chance at Tranmere at the weekend.

But Ardiles is aware of Dibble's unhappy Maine Road situation and is considering an

approach.

Welsh international Dibble, third choice behind Tony Coton and Martyn Margetson at Maine Road, is rated at £350,000.

He has just started a month's loan at Bolton.

SPECIALIST

BLACKBURN have cancelled an operation on their most expensive signing.

Midfielder Steve Agnew who cost them 700,000 should have gone into hospital last Friday for surgery on a damaged ankle.

But chairman William Fox has ordered further specialist consultation.



PAUL PARKER

THIS WEEK ON SBS

YOUR SOCCER STATION

Saturday, September 15

★ World Soccer — 5.30pm

★ Main matches: The final of the under-17 Youth World Championship between Ghana and Spain and the Italian Super Cup clash between Sampdoria and Roma.

Sunday, September 16

★ Italian Soccer — 10.30am

★ One hour reviewing last weekend in the highly acclaimed Italian league. Features a main match and all the goals in the First Division.

European Football — 11.30pm

★ Main match: German Bundesliga action between last year's champions Kaiserslautern and perennial power Bayern Munich.

KEEP GOING FOR MORE BIG EURO SOCCER NEWS